



ARC

*Alliance for
Rail Competition*

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Federal Update February 13, 2009

ARC 2009 plan updated

The Executive Committee, our legislative affairs consultants at Meyers & Associates and myself met early in January at a planning session to update the Mission, Strategy and Plan for achieving our objective. In looking at the new DC political environment, we are more convinced than ever our Mission and Strategy makes sense. Naturally, our plan for 2009 has been updated to reflect the new 111th Congress. For 2009 we focused on getting Final Offer Arbitration in any Legislation that is introduced to help the captive shipper.

Below is the Mission and Strategy along with the 2009 Plan:

Mission

Support the Nation's railroads and their workforce to achieve a reliable and safe railroad network that serves all consumers ensuring American competitiveness

Strategy

Fair and balanced implementation of the Staggers Rail Act of 1980

Plan for 2009 will be:

- Seek early re-introduction in the 111th Congress of legislation that promotes competition in the rail industry. **We will push for inclusion of FOA or a similar provision that that forces business solutions to both shipper and rail issues.** To accomplish this, we will focus on the following activities:
 - a. Initiate a "grass roots" campaign for rail competition provisions.
 - b. Continue collaborative interactive efforts with other organizations that support our legislative goals.

- c. Develop common legislative goals.
- d. Work with sponsors for introduction of the legislation.
- e. Develop additional sponsors.
- f. Schedule mini shipper days which targets hill visits.
- g. Seek support from States, State legislatures and municipalities for the legislation.
- h. ARC will encourage and support its members' participation in studies, Congressional testimony and STB hearings.
- i. Increase membership

As part of the "grass roots" campaign it would be helpful for our members to send letters to their respective Congressional Members asking for support of Competitive rail legislation that includes a provision such as Final Offer Arbitration (FOA).

Attached is a generic letter that may help in composing such a letter.

Thanks for your support,

Chairman

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Executive Director

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