



# ARC

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Rail Competition*

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## Busy August in Washington on Rail Legislation

Congress is set to return to Washington after Labor Day (September 8<sup>th</sup>) to begin taking up the legislative agenda for the remainder of the first session of the 111th Congress. It is our belief that rail reform legislation in the Senate will be part of that agenda. During the month of August, ARC has been actively participating with a small rail shipper advocacy group working directly with the staff of the Senate Commerce Committee to help craft legislation to submit to Chairman Rockefeller to address the concerns of ARC and other rail shippers. These meetings have been about the "details" contained in rail law as they relate to rates and service. ARC Chairman Terry Whiteside came to Washington for several of these discussions to assist the staff with his background and knowledge of the industry. This committee staff work is vital in crafting the final form of the legislation. During September we expect a concerted effort to move legislation rail reform legislation forward in the Senate. It is our hope at that time we will have draft bill language available that we can provide to you.

## Daniel R. Elliott III Sworn In As Chairman of the STB- ARC plans to meet with him in September

On August 13, Daniel Elliott was sworn in as the fifth chairman of the Surface Transportation Board. He has pledged to "bring an open mind and sense of fairness to the Board's economic regulation of railroads." Chairman Elliott has previously served for 16 years as associate general counsel to the United Transportation Union. He was nominated by President Obama on June 20, 2009 for a four-year term expiring December 31, 2013. His appointment was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on August 7, 2009, just before the Congress left for the August break. ARC and other rail shippers have been in communication with the Chairman and are scheduled to meet with him on "rail shipper concerns" in early September.