



AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION®

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August 12, 2008

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
U.S. House of Representatives Speaker  
U.S. Capitol  
100 Constitution Ave. NE  
Room 232  
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

The American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) urges you to co-sponsor H.R. 1650, *The Railroad Antitrust Enforcement Act of 2007*. H.R. 1650 would eliminate special antitrust exemptions that allow the nation's freight railroads to avoid competition and therefore keep rates artificially and unfairly high.

American agriculture depends heavily on the railroad system, especially given the high cost of shipping commodities via trucks. Like several other industries, agriculture producers are frequently captive rail customers and experience both unreliable service and exorbitantly high rates from the railroads.

We need your help to remove the special antitrust exemptions that protect railroads so that prices for shipping agriculture commodities via rail can be fair and reasonable. We ask your support for H.R. 1650 and thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Stallman'.

Bob Stallman  
President



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July 31, 2008

The Honorable Harry Reid  
U.S. Senate  
Hart Senate Office Building  
2<sup>nd</sup> & C Streets, NE  
Room 528  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Reid:

The American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) urges you to co-sponsor S. 772, *The Railroad Antitrust Enforcement Act*. S. 772 would eliminate special antitrust exemptions that allow the nation's freight railroads to avoid competition and therefore keep rates artificially and unfairly high.

American agriculture depends heavily on the railroad system, especially given the high cost of shipping commodities via trucks. Like several other industries, agriculture producers are frequently captive rail customers and experience both unreliable service and exorbitantly high rates from the railroads.

We need your help to remove the special antitrust exemptions that protect railroads so that prices for shipping agriculture commodities via rail can be fair and reasonable. We ask your support for S. 772 and thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Stallman'.

Bob Stallman  
President