

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 14, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

With the ongoing distribution challenges that have resulted in a propane shortage throughout Ohio and the Midwest, we respectfully request the Department of Transportation (DOT) further extend the hours of service emergency exemption. While the U.S. House and Senate have passed H.R. 4076, the Home Heating Emergency Assistance Through Transportation Act of 2014, which would remedy a possible lapse in the exemption until May, it is our understanding that the bill awaits the President's signature and could take a number of days or even weeks to obtain. As such, an interim Hours-of-Service exemption would prevent such a lapse in the waiver and provide a degree of certainty for the suppliers and distributors transporting emergency loads of propane.

As you are aware, the emergency exemption is set to expire on March 15, 2014. Unfortunately, the cold weather conditions being experienced throughout Ohio and the Midwest have yet to fully subside. Further frustrating is that the price of propane is still well above the winter heating season average. While many of our constituents have been taking voluntary conservation measures to reduce the amount of propane used, especially for home heating, inflated energy bills will be an extreme hardship for many families already budgeting under strained circumstances.

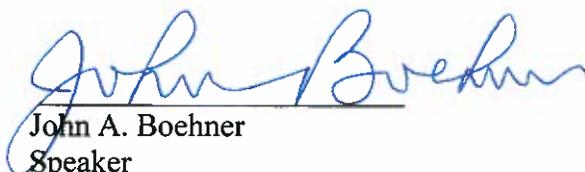
The hours-of-service exemption has proved very beneficial during these trying times. They have enabled emergency supplies of propane to get to the communities most in need as fast as possible. While the situation has certainly improved, it is not over.

We appreciate the DOT's continued efforts to remedy the situation. We stand ready to assist you in any way in order to continue to bring much-needed relief to all impacted Ohioans.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress



John A. Boehner  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives



David P. Joyce  
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress



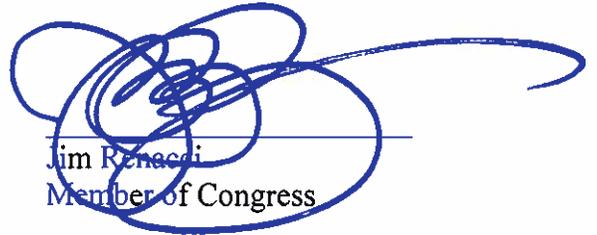
Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Steve Stivers  
Member of Congress



Patrick J. Tiberi  
Member of Congress



Jim Renacci  
Member of Congress



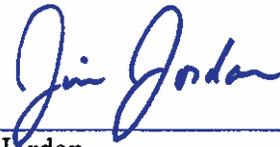
Michael R. Turner  
Member of Congress



Brad Wenstrup  
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress



Jim Jordan  
Member of Congress