



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**JERRY PETROWSKI** RECEIVED  
86<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

January 5, 2012

11-19

Ms. Karen V. Gregory  
Secretary  
Federal Maritime Commission  
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Washington, DC 20573-0001

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Subject: Docket No. 11-19, *U.S. Containerized Cargo Flows – Response to NOI*

Dear Madam Secretary:

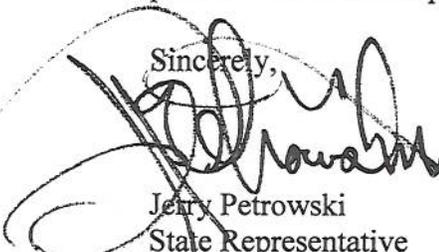
I would like to submit my comments in response to the Federal Maritime Commission's Notice of Inquiry on factors that may cause or contribute to the shift of cargo destined for the U.S. inland from U.S. to Canadian and Mexican seaports.

As you may know, Canada is Wisconsin's largest trading partner. Many of Wisconsin's businesses rely upon the smooth transport of goods to and from Canada to remain competitive in today's marketplace. Locally, businesses in my district depend on efficient and reliable access to raw forestry products and fertilizers imported from Canada to operate. Likewise, Canada serves as a vital trade partner not only as a consumer of Wisconsin-made goods, but also as an effective outlet for our foreign-bound exports.

I would strongly discourage any application of the Harbor Maintenance Tax to freight being transported by international rail. Such a measure could lead to an increase in the transportation costs of Wisconsin exports and further increase costs for domestic consumers.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue. Please include this letter in the public docket for this proceeding.

Sincerely,



Jerry Petrowski  
State Representative  
86<sup>th</sup> Assembly District