NEWS from the T&I DEMOCRATS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Democratic Caucus U.S. House of Representatives, 2163 Rayburn HOB, Washington, DC 20515 www.house.gov/transportation_democrats

For immediate release: Tuesday, January 24, 2006 Contact; Jim Berard (202) 225-6260

Oberstar statement on the resignation of DOT-IG Kenneth Mead

WASHINGTON—Rep. James L. Oberstar (Minn.), Ranking Democratic Member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, today released the following statement on the announcement by Department of Transportation Inspector General Kenneth Mead that he will resign the post effective February 11, 2006:

Inspector General Mead's resignation is a gigantic loss. For the past nine years, Ken Mead has been the conscience of transportation in this country. His contributions will be measured as much by what has not happened as by what he changed in the culture of all modes of transportation. What has not happened? Lives NOT lost due to failure of adequate maintenance of aircraft; public funds NOT wasted on futile, redundant expenditures...the list goes on. He has been a highly dedicated and effective public servant. I have worked with Mr. Mead for nearly 20 years, from his time with what was then called the General Accounting Office. His investigations have been critical to my work on this Committee. I wish him all the best in whatever he chooses to do in the future.

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