

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 20, 2012

The Honorable Pat Quinn
Illinois Governor
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

The Honorable Terry Branstad
Iowa Governor
1007 East Grand Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Governors Quinn and Branstad,


As you are well aware, our country has many infrastructure issues including crumbling bridges, especially in the state of Illinois and Iowa, which serve as crossroads for the entire country. The Quad Cities represent a major transportation corridor that should not be ignored and we appreciate the work and focus you have had in particular on the I-74 Bridge between Bettendorf, Iowa and Moline, Illinois.

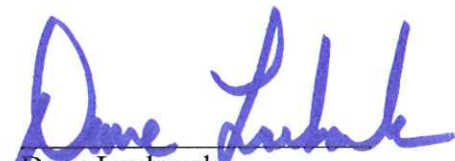
The I-74 Bridge is in grave need of replacement. Doing so would not only help address the safety and transportation needs of such an important transportation corridor, but it would also help create jobs and increase the economic viability of the region. The Illinois Department of Transportation has previously stated that the I-74 Bridge is high priority for the state of Illinois, but that they require federal funding to complete this project with the state of Iowa.

We encourage you to place the I-74 Bridge as a high priority for receiving unspent transportation funds if you determine they are not needed for their original purpose for both the Iowa Department of Transportation and the Illinois Department of Transportation. We specifically support the inclusion of I-74 in the announced plan by the Administration to use unspent funds to help move transportation projects forward in each state. This bridge fits the important criteria of fixing our crumbling infrastructure, creating jobs and supporting our economic recovery, and we encourage you to include the I-74 Bridge in this plan for funds in each state that will not be used for their original purpose.

Again, thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to continuing our work to reinvest in the necessary infrastructure for our country to be safe and thrive.

Sincerely,


Bobby Schilling
House of Representatives


Dave Loebsack
House of Representatives