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SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 20, 2010

Mr. Michael Ward
Chairman and CEO
CSX Corporation
500 Water Street, 15th Floor
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Dear Mr. Ward:

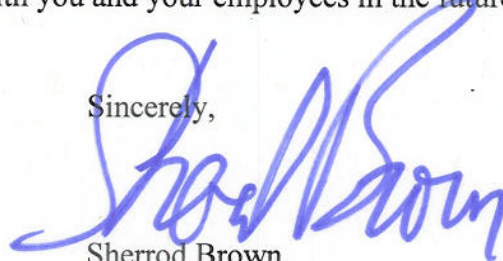
I write you today concerning a September 15 article in the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, "Rail Spike, Debris, Falling from Bridge." As outlined in the newspaper, pieces of the C&O railroad bridge on the banks of the Ohio River in Cincinnati were falling from the span, putting pedestrians and drivers at risk of serious injury. It is my understanding that the CSX Corporation is owner of the bridge and has recently announced that the company is taking appropriate measures to ensure that this bridge will soon be fixed.

I appreciate CSX being a good partner with the City of Cincinnati and working quickly to remedy this potentially dangerous project. However, I am concerned by other recent incidents related to bridge safety in Ohio that were brought to my attention.

- A September 10 article in the *Lorain Morning Journal* outlined ongoing problems with a CSX owned bridge on E. 28th St in Lorain. Fallen pieces of concrete have caused road closures. It is my understanding that city authorities have been requesting repair on this bridge for nearly a year.
- An August 4 article in the *Ashtabula Star Beacon* focuses on the 101 year-old Lake Avenue Bridge that is littered with fallen concrete and missing anchor bolts.

I am hopeful that these and other potential public safety concerns will quickly be remedied. The citizens of Ohio and visitors to our state not only deserve swift action to ensure that possible harm related to these bridges is avoided, but they should be assured that CSX is being proactive in preventing potential incidents at other bridge sites. I am confident that you have put a plan in place to immediately address these pressing infrastructure investments, and would appreciate being apprised of the steps you will take. I appreciate CSX's continued contributions to Ohio and look forward to working with you and your employees in the future to create jobs in the freight rail industry.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown