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### **Rep. Gary Miller's Statement on Today's Freight Transportation Panel Field Hearing in San Bernardino**

San Bernardino, CA – Today, Rep. Gary Miller (CA-31), a member of the Panel on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Freight Transportation, participated in the panel's field hearing in San Bernardino on how transportation challenges facing Southern California will impact the nation.

Today's hearing featured testimony from a number of state and regional transportation officials as well as private sector leaders who deal with the challenges of freight transportation in Southern California on a day-to-day basis. Specifically, the Panel received testimony from:

- Kome Ajise, Deputy Director for Planning and Modal Programs, California Department of Transportation
- Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, Southern California Association of Governments
- Marnie O'Brien Primmer, Executive Director, Mobility 21
- Scott Moore, Vice President for Public Affairs, Union Pacific
- Mike Fox, President and CEO, Fox Transportation
- Rick Richmond, former CEO, Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority

"Freight transportation plays a large and expanding role in Southern California, particularly here in the Inland Empire," said Congressman Miller. "I would like to thank Chairman Duncan for presiding over today's hearing and all of the participants for offering their perspectives on the unique challenges and opportunities facing goods movement in our region and the impact they will have on our nation's economy. As freight traffic continues to grow, our region must be prepared to accommodate this increased demand in order to support economic growth, create new jobs, and to ensure the efficient movement of goods from our ports to store shelves across the nation."

Congressman Miller also emphasized the importance of freight transportation to job creation and economic growth in the 31<sup>st</sup> Congressional District, saying, "For my constituents, the 31<sup>st</sup> District's strategic location and competitively priced land means thousands of good-paying jobs in the transportation, warehousing, construction, and logistics industries. As our area continues to recover from the Great Recession, economic activity generated by these industries, along with manufacturing, retail, and a healing housing market, will be essential to restoring long-term growth and job creation in the Inland Empire. I look forward to continuing my work on the panel to find pragmatic solutions to our freight transportation challenges that support our economic recovery and future growth and prosperity."

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