



Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 4, 2022

Ms. Katie M. Farmer
President and Chief Executive Officer
BNSF Railway Company
2650 Lou Menk Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76131

Mr. Jeremy R. Ferguson
President
SMART Transportation Division
24950 Country Club Blvd., Suite 340
North Olmsted, OH 44070-5333

Mr. Dennis R. Pierce
National President
Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen
7061 East Pleasant Valley Road
Independence, Ohio 44131

Dear Ms. Farmer, Mr. Ferguson, and Mr. Pierce,

We write today out of concern for BNSF Railway's recently established absenteeism policy, called "Hi-Viz," and the growing number of resignations that have occurred since its implementation. Even a modest number of those resignations may pose additional stress to our already strained supply chain.

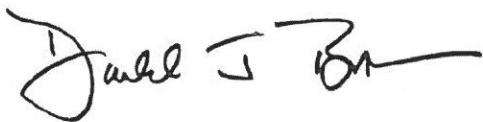
BNSF is America's largest freight railroad. The company and its employees have been critical in the movement and delivery of products throughout the global pandemic and supply chain crisis. In fact, it is because of a robust railroad industry and its dedicated workers, that our stores' shelves are stocked, and our interstate commerce remains fluid. Their essential role within the landscape of our nation's transportation infrastructure have clearly been obvious for all to see.

Now, as the country adjusts to post COVID-19 life, it is important that all applicable parties remain willing to communicate and cooperate in the development of new policies and work processes.

As Members of Congress, many of whom have districts that represent BNSF employees and possess a portion of the railroad's system, we are troubled by the communications our offices have received regarding the new "Hi-Viz" policy. Therefore, we urge both sides to reengage in good-faith discussions to achieve a policy that works for all. Only by working together can meaningful policies be developed, and mutual resolutions achieved.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We view this as a crucial priority to maintaining a robust transportation system and a healthy supply chain.

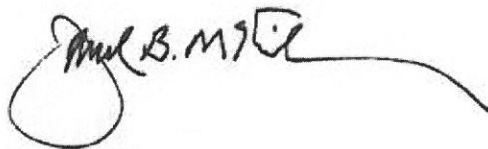
Sincerely,



Don Bacon
Member of Congress



Brian K. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



David McKinley
Member of Congress



Jeff Van Drew
Member of Congress



Chris Smith
Member of Congress