



U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

June 22, 2020

Dear Members of the Ohio Delegation to Congress,

All Aboard Ohio supports HR 6422, which creates a \$4-Trillion-dollar National Infrastructure Bank. Creating such a long term and sustainable source of funding for major infrastructure projects, especially those that move more people by rail, is a critical need that cannot be met by the states without a strong federal partner.

The bill to create the National Infrastructure Bank was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on March 31, 2020 by Rep Danny Davis (D-IL). It currently has 2 co-sponsors: Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA) and Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL). We would be happy to join others in getting members of Ohio's delegation to sign on as co-sponsors.

All Aboard Ohio also believes that a statewide Ohio Multi-Modal Transportation Fund needs to be established as well: with the aim of funding non-highway modes of transportation, especially intercity passenger rail and local public transit service as well as bikeways and walkable communities. We are very supportive of a fully bi-partisan effort to secure long-term, sustainable funding, much as the State of Ohio established back in the mid-1950's for highways and bridges. The National Infrastructure Bank could play a major role, partnering with cities and the state to provide much needed financing.

It is worth noting that the timing could not be better for such legislation at the federal level. Though we are enduring a viral pandemic, one of the major impacts of both national and statewide "stay at home" policies have been less driving and resulting cleaner and clearer air. As it appears that many private and public sector entities will continue to have employees working from home and driving less, we have the chance to take advantage of an unforeseen but welcome head start on improving our environment.

Improved local public transit and increased development of faster, more frequent intercity trains is something we can begin to build and operate quickly on both existing and new corridors. But the missing link has historically been a steady and reliable source of funding.

Again, All Aboard Ohio supports the Congressional bill, HR 6422. We believe it is an excellent start.

Sincerely,

*Stu Nicholson*

Stu Nicholson  
Executive Director  
All Aboard Ohio.