



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATERFRONT EMPLOYERS

January 22, 2025

The Honorable Sen. John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
S-230, Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader Thune,

On behalf of the National Association of Waterfront Employers (NAWE), I am writing to express our strong support for the swift confirmation of Sean Duffy as the next Secretary of Transportation. NAWE has worked with Mr. Duffy during his tenure in Congress and believes he is exceptionally well-qualified for this critical position. As the leading organization representing U.S. marine terminal operators and stevedores, we recognize the critical importance of experienced leadership at the Department of Transportation (DOT) to ensure the vitality and efficiency of our nation's transportation infrastructure.

Mr. Duffy's extensive experience in public service, coupled with his deep understanding of the complexities of multimodal transportation systems, uniquely positions him to lead the DOT at this pivotal moment. His demonstrated commitment to fostering collaboration among government, industry, and labor stakeholders aligns closely with NAWE's mission of promoting safety, efficiency, and sustainability within the U.S. maritime sector.

As the U.S. faces increasing global competition and navigates the challenges of modernizing aging infrastructure, Mr. Duffy's leadership will be instrumental in ensuring that our transportation systems remain resilient and competitive. We are particularly encouraged by his commitment to addressing supply chain challenges, enhancing port infrastructure, and advancing innovative solutions to improve operational efficiency across all modes of transportation. NAWE member companies represent the critical industries that handle the vast majority of U.S. overseas trade, and we believe that we will be a credit to the formulation of policies that we help enable our industry in service to the U.S. economy.

NAWE believes that a quick and efficient confirmation process for Mr. Duffy is in the best interest of the American people and the economy. We respectfully urge the Committee to prioritize his nomination and facilitate a timely confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration. NAWE stands ready to work with Mr. Duffy and the Department of Transportation to support the development of policies that strengthen our nation's maritime and transportation industries.

Sincerely,

Carl Bentzel
President
National Association of Waterfront Employers