

**'H.R. 612' puts  
railroaders' jobs at risk,  
while at the same time  
increasing taxpayer  
subsidies for heavy trucks.**

## MEMBER ALERT!

Call or e-mail your Congressman today  
and ask them to protect rail jobs and road  
infrastructure by pulling H.R. 612 for consideration.



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## MEMBER ALERT

Mike Michaud of Maine (D) and Reid Ribble of Wisconsin (R) introduced legislation in the U.S. House that puts rail jobs and America's roads at risk. House Bill H.R. 612 would allow maximum truck weight to increase on our nation's highways from 80,000 to 97,000 pounds. Consider the impacts:

- An increase in truck weight by 20 percent would put railroads at a competitive disadvantage, meaning more heavy freight diverted to highways. A recent analysis found that this increase could reduce overall short line traffic by 17 percent.
- Motorists subsidize road infrastructure for heavy trucks at a rate of \$1.9 billion annually. The Department of Transportation (DOT) found that heavy trucks would only pay about 50% of the damage they inflict on roads if H.R. 612 becomes law.
- Railroads move cargo nearly four times as far as trucks per gallon of fuel and emit fewer pollutants per mile. By allowing heavier trucks, Congress would be incentivizing more shipments by truck rather than fuel efficient trains.
- Language like H.R. 612 has already been rejected by a bipartisan committee vote of 33-22. Currently the DOT is conducting a comprehensive study of the issue.

Your National Legislative Office in Washington D.C. is working with other rail labor organizations and the railroad associations to put a stop to this flawed public policy. You can do your part by calling your Congressman and asking him to pull H.R. 612 from consideration.

**Congressman Mike Michaud (ME-D) and Congressman Reid Ribble (WI-R) are sponsors of H.R. 612 which puts railroaders' jobs at risk.**

**Call or email today and ask them to pull H.R. 612.**



**Congressman  
Mike Michaud (ME-D)  
Maine 2<sup>nd</sup> District**

[michaud.house.gov](http://michaud.house.gov)  
(click on 'contact mike')  
phone: 202-225-6306



**Congressman  
Reid Ribble (WI-R)  
Wisconsin 8<sup>th</sup> District**

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This member alert is being provided by SMART Transportation Division (UTU) to active and retired members who live in Maine's 2nd District & Wisconsin's 8th District.