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STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN

House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

July 10, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590
United States

**RE: Gateway 228 Project
Butler County, Pennsylvania**

Dear Secretary Chao:

As State Representative of the 12th Legislative District, serving southern Butler County, I am writing in support of the funding request for Butler County and the Gateway 228 Project from the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Discretionary Grants Program through the U.S. Department of Transportation.

This funding would be used to alleviate safety and congestion issues along two key areas of the Route 228 corridor.

Over the last two decades, with the rapid growth of Cranberry Township, the Route 228 corridor has become the primary link between both of Butler County's rural and suburban residents, and its emerging economic opportunities. However, insufficient capacity and growing safety concerns have impacted the economic potential of this vital transportation corridor.

Furthermore, with the addition of the Shell Company's ethane cracker plant in the neighboring Beaver County, immediate roadway improvements will be needed to serve the expected increase in traffic along the Route 228 corridor.

The two areas along the Route 228 corridor where Butler County is proposing transportation improvements are Balls Bend in Middlesex Township; and Freedom Road (from Commonwealth Drive to Haines School Road), in Cranberry Township.

As you know, a safe and reliable road network is crucial in order to provide safe access to employment, social, health, and educational services for my constituents and others. A successful BUILD grant would enable the creation of new access points to urban and rural areas along the Route 228 corridor and will help ease congestion in this rapidly growing region.

Transportation infrastructure is critical to all aspects of my district, especially along the Route 228 corridor, and I wholeheartedly offer my support for Butler County's requested BUILD grant.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daryl D. Metcalfe".

Daryl D. Metcalfe
State Representative
Majority Chairman, House State Government Committee