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Dear Friends,

Greetings to the Corn Belt Ports Annual Meeting.

We all know the importance of the inland waterways to the Midwest and our nation. It is amazing that the four Corn Belt Port regions move approximately 100 million tons of freight annually. Our farmers, manufactures, and communities rely on this efficient, environmentally sound, and cost effective method of transportation. We truly feed the world through the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers.

Throughout my career, I have been a champion of legislation and policies that benefit the Upper Mississippi River and our inland waterways system. I was proud to support the bipartisan infrastructure bill that provided much needed funding through various federal programs for our ports and waterways. Most notably, the construction funding for the modernization of the lock and dam system through the Navigation Ecosystem Restoration Program (NESP).

We need all modes of transportation to help us deliver our inputs, goods, and commodities both domestically and internationally. I want to see robust navigation on the Mississippi River and other inland waterways flourish. The Corn Belt Ports are an important part of this economic engine.

I look forward to continuing to work with you, my congressional colleagues, and the administration on these important issues.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator

Committee Assignments:

JUDICIARY
FINANCE
AGRICULTURE

RANKING MEMBER
BUDGET

CO-CHAIRMAN
CAUCUS ON
INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL