SHORT LINE TAX CREDIT TOPS 100 CO-SPONSORS IN 116TH CONGRESS

WASHINGTON – February 12, 2019 – Late yesterday, HR 510, which calls for permanence of the short line tax credit, formally received its 100th co-sponsor. The bill, introduced January 11 by Reps Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) and Mike Kelly (R-PA), has rapidly garnered significant bi-partisan support, as it has every Congress since the credit was introduced in 2004. House support for this legislation is growing at a record pace, with 106 co-sponsors in just four weeks.

"Clearly there is at least one thing Congress CAN agree on - the need to invest in small railroad infrastructure that keeps goods moving from small town and rural America into the U.S. and world economies," said Chuck Baker, President of the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association. "Short lines provide the critical first and last mile from farms, energy facilities, and factories to reach their domestic and international suppliers and customers. In five states we are the only form of rail transportation, and in thirty-six states we operate more than 25% of the railroad route miles. This credit provides the ability for railroads to invest more of their private dollars in infrastructure improvements, ensuring the safe and efficient movement of goods for our more than 10,000 customers."
“We urge Congress to act now to extend the short line tax credit into 2019 and beyond. Delaying action defers the benefits of this credit to all the thousands of customers and communities that depend on it.”

A companion bill, S 203 has been introduced in the Senate, where it has already garnered 18, including the original eleven, co-sponsors from both sides of the aisle.

For more on the Short Line 45G Tax Credit, visit www.aslra.org.

About ASLRA - The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRA) is a non-profit trade association representing the interests of the nation’s 600 short line and regional railroads and railroad supply company members in legislative and regulatory matters. Short lines operate 47,500 miles of track in 49 states, touching in origination or termination one out of every four cars moving on the national railroad system, serving customers who otherwise would be cut off from the national railroad network.