WASHINGTON, D.C. – January 16, 2019 – Judy Petry, Chair of ASLRRA, and President and General Manager of Farmrail System, Inc. has issued the following statement regarding the January 11, 2019 House Congressional action that offers permanence to the Short Line Railroad Maintenance Tax Credit (‘45G’) and provides retroactivity through December 31, 2018.

The Building Rail Access for Customers and the Economy (BRACE) Act, H.R. 510 was introduced by Representatives Earl Blumenauer (D-OR-3) and Mike Kelly (R-PA-16). The Short Line Tax Credit, first introduced in 2005, has been responsible for more than $4B of investment in privately held short line railroads across the nation, ensuring safe and economical transportation options to more than 10,000 rail customers – many in the nation’s rural heartland.

“We are pleased that the House, once again, has recognized the need to make permanent the Short Line Tax Credit. We urge Congress to act quickly, before the 2018 tax deadline, to ensure that railroads can meet our customer’s transportation needs safely and efficiently. The continuation of this credit is good public policy, allowing our industry to do its share
toward improving the nation’s infrastructure by incentivizing railroads to increase their capital investment.”

About ASLRRA - The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) is a non-profit trade association representing the interests of the nation’s 603 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, or approximately 29% of the national railroad network, touching in origination or termination one out of every five cars moving on the national railroad system, serving customers who otherwise would be cut off from the national railroad network.