

RSA Applauds Introduction of INVEST in America Act

Five-year surface transportation reauthorization bill an essential component of ensuring rail security in the U.S.

(Washington, D.C.) — Today, the Rail Security Alliance expressed support for the <u>INVEST in America Act</u>, which was introduced by House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair Peter DeFazio, Highways and Transit Subcommittee Chair Eleanor Holmes Norton, and Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee Chair Donald Payne, Jr. on June 4.

The <u>INVEST in America Act</u>, the federal five-year surface transportation reauthorization bill, provides critical funding for America's surface transportation infrastructure and systems and supports investment in America's most critical industries and manufacturing.

Erik Olson, vice president of the Rail Security Alliance, said, "We thank Chairs DeFazio, Holmes Norton and Payne for prioritizing America's transportation and critical infrastructure systems in this bill, including a focus on passenger and freight rail.

The safety and security of our nation's rail system is important to the 65,000 manufacturing and supply-side workers who depend on this industry for their livelihoods. The INVEST in America Act also recognizes the critical function of our freight railroads to ensure national and economic security. Given the ongoing recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the threat from foreign governments, the INVEST in America Act comes at an important time."

This legislation comes on the heels of news detailing how foreign adversaries, notably those from China, continue to target vulnerabilities in U.S. infrastructure and transportation systems, including recent cyberattacks on transit agencies including New York's M.T.A. In a recent report by Radarlock, Chinese state-owned enterprises including CRRC are at the forefront of the China military-civil fusion strategy and have been identified on a Department of Defense list of companies backed and supported by the Chinese military.

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About the Rail Security Alliance

The Rail Security Alliance exists to support and encourage the adoption and enactment of U.S. policies, procedures and laws that are designed to promote the security of the railroads and the railroad system of the United States of America.

RSA is a coalition of North American railcar manufacturers, rail component suppliers, unions, and steel interests that are committed to ensuring the economic and national security of the

North American passenger and freight rail systems, representing an industry that creates 65,000 family-wage jobs and contributes \$6.5 billion annually to the U.S. GDP. RSA was formed in response to the merging of China's two largest state-owned rail manufacturers into one massive state-owned conglomerate—China Railway Rolling Stock Corporation (CRRC)—in 2015, which is the same year that China announced its military-civil fusion strategy known as Made in China 2025.