

[DATE], 2009

The Honorable Bob Filner
United States House of Representatives
2428 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Filner:

On behalf of [YOUR UNION NAME], I would like to inform you of our strong support for HR 2104, which requires public employees to perform the inspection and related essential public functions on all state and local transportation projects. HR 2104 will help ensure that public safety is protected, transportation funds are not wasted and projects are delivered in a timely manner.

On transportation projects, construction inspectors are the eyes, ears and voice of the public. Inspectors ensure that construction and seismic standards are met, that projects meet safety requirements and that the materials used will stand the test of time. In short, they are there to ensure that the motoring public gets what they pay for and public safety and the public interest are protected.

Unfortunately, across the nation, departments of transportation are outsourcing construction inspection with disastrous results including Boston's "Big Dig" (where a concrete slab from a tunnel ceiling fell and killed a woman), the L.A. Redline subway (Hollywood Boulevard collapsed), the 8-805 Interchange in San Diego (10,000 defective welds on a seismic retrofit), the Connecticut I-84 project (hundreds of drains that lead nowhere) and many other projects. Outsourcing inspection threatens public safety, increases project costs and delays project completion.

Commuters and taxpayers are best-served by requiring public inspection.

Thank you for introducing this important legislation. Please list [YOUR UNION NAME] as a sponsor of the bill. Please call me at [YOUR PHONE #] if [YOUR UNION NAME] members can assist your efforts.

Warm Regards,

[NAME]
[TITLE]
[UNION/ORGANIZATION NAME]