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August 9, 2002

Honorable Richard Durbin
U.S. Senate
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Connecticut State
Employees Association

CWA Local 1032
(NJDOT)

Massachusetts
Organization of State
Engineers & Scientists
(MOSES)

Michigan Professional
Employees Society
(SEIU)

Ohio Civil Service
Employees Association
(AFSCME)

Oklahoma Public
Employees Association
(OPEA)

Professional Engineers
in California
Government
(PECG)

Wisconsin State
Employees Union
AFSCME Council #24

AFL-CIO
Department of
Professional Employees

AFSCME

AFT

CWA

IFPTE

SEIU

RE: SUPPORT FOR S. 1152 – TRAC

Dear Senator Durbin:

On behalf of the National Association of State Highway and Transportation Unions (NASHTU), I am writing to express our wholehearted support for your S. 1152, the Truthfulness, Responsibility and Accountability in Contracting (TRAC) Act. This legislation will bring public accountability, efficient delivery of services and reasonable cost savings to the contracting practices of the federal government.

NASHTU is comprised of 29 unions, affiliates and associations from 18 states and the District of Columbia representing hundreds of thousands of state and local department of transportation engineers, architects, project managers, inspectors and related employees. NASHTU is dedicated to ensuring that federal transportation dollars are spent on safe, cost-effective projects that serve the public interest.

This year NASHTU produced *Highway Robbery*, a report outlining the many problems caused by contracting out design, construction management, oversight and inspection on state and local transportation projects. A copy is enclosed for your information.

We believe that the TRAC legislation ³/₄by requiring a comparison of the respective costs associated with using public employees or private contractors ³/₄will ensure taxpayers receive high quality services at the best possible price.

Please add NASHTU to the list of supporters of this important legislation. If NASHTU can assist your efforts in any way, please contact me at 916/446-0584 or Jimmy Tarlau at 202/434-1134.

Warm Regards,

Ted Toppin
NASHTU Coordinator

Enclosure

cc: Honorable Joseph Lieberman, Chairman, Governmental Affairs Committee
Honorable Fred Thompson, Ranking Member, Governmental Affairs Committee