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Legislative Alert: St. Croix River Crossing Project Authorization Act (S. 1134)

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AFL-CIO

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Abstract
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Keywords
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Comments

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February 29, 2012

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I am writing to urge you to support the “St. Croix River Crossing Project Authorization Act” (S. 1134).

The existing 80 year old St. Croix Bridge is functionally obsolete, handles far more traffic than it was designed for, and has a sufficiency rating lower than that of the I-35W Bridge before it collapsed in 2007. The construction of a new bridge is needed and will put thousands of construction workers back to work. The construction sector of our economy has yet to recover from the recession, with unemployment levels over twice the national average. Both Minnesota and Wisconsin have set aside the necessary funds to pay for the cost of the project, and some of this funding allocation will expire soon if it is not committed. This $633 million project would boost the local economy by putting an estimated $200 million worth of construction wages into workers’ pockets.

Earlier this year, the Senate passed this bill by unanimous consent, and we urge the House to do the same.

Sincerely,

William Samuel, Director
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT