



March 3, 2008

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
44<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
House of Representatives  
2201 Rayburn Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**Subject: WRCOG Action to Support H.R. 5102: Our Nation's Trade Infrastructure, Mobility and Efficiency Act (ON TIME Act) of 2007**

Dear Congressman Calvert:

On February 4, 2008 the Executive Committee of the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) acted to **Support H.R. 5102**, the ON TIME Act, which stands for "Our Nation's Trade Infrastructure, Mobility and Efficiency Act" of 2007. Among other provisions, this bill will create a national freight fee based on the value of goods moved, and dedicates funds for specific transportation improvements in areas around the more than 300 points of entry across the United States, including ports, airports, and boarder crossings. Projects that will be eligible to receive funding may include, but are not limited to, freeway expansions, grade separations, and dedicated truck lanes.

The Western Riverside Council of Governments applauds your efforts in recognizing that the transport of goods and cargo from the point of entry to the end user has created, and continues to create congestion and wear on the existing trade corridor infrastructure. By assigning a modest fee to imported and exported cargo, this bill seeks to establish a steady funding source that will provide a much needed reprieve to the compounding congestion that is occurring along the southern California trade corridor.

Goods movement is an issue that needs to be tackled from a national perspective with great care given to the needs of local governments and residents. WRCOG believes that the ON TIME Act of 2007 accomplishes this goal. Please find the attached Resolution signed by WRCOG Chairman Chuck Washington, which outlines WRCOG's support for the H.R. 5102, Our Nation's Trade Infrastructure, Mobility and Efficiency Act of 2007.

Danielle Coats is the WRCOG Legislative Analyst and can be contacted at (951) 955-8432 if there are any questions regarding this correspondence.

Sincerely,

Jeff Stone  
Vice Chairman, WRCOG Executive Committee  
Supervisor, District 3, County of Riverside

Attachments: Resolution Number 04-08

cc: Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.  
Congressman Darrell Issa  
Congresswoman Mary Bono Mack  
Congressman Jerry Lewis  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Senator Dianne Feinstein  
WRCOG Executive Committee Members  
WRCOG Technical Advisory Committee Members



**RESOLUTION NUMBER 04-08**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS SUPPORTING H.R. 5102: OUR NATION'S TRADE INFRASTRUCTURE, MOBILITY AND EFFICIENCY ACT (ON TIME ACT) OF 2007, AS INTRODUCED BY CONGRESSMAN KEN CALVERT, R-CALIFORNIA AND CONGRESSMAN JESSE JACKSON JR., D-ILLINOIS**

**WHEREAS**, growth in international trade, particularly containerized trade is placing pressure on the nation's transportation network creating congestion; and

**WHEREAS**, freeways in Southern California handle up to 40,000 trucks daily, with this number projected to double by 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, Southern California is home to two of the nation's busiest ports; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly one-third of all container traffic in the United States is handled at the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 23, 2008 Congressman Ken Calvert, R-California, and Congressman Jess Jackson Jr., D-Illinois introduced H.R. 5102: Our Nation's Trade Infrastructure, Mobility and Efficiency Act known as the ON TIME Act of 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, H.R. 5102, the ON TIME Act of 2007 establishes a fee equal to .075 percent of the value on goods that are imported into the United States, not to exceed \$500; and

**WHEREAS**, the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security will assess and collect the fee for carrying out eligible projects in the trade corridors; and

**WHEREAS**, fees collected pursuant to H.R. 5102 will be used for infrastructure improvements adjacent to the approximately 300 points of entry in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Western Riverside Council of Governments believes that goods movement is a national issue and should be addressed as such, and

**WHEREAS**, the Western Riverside Council of Governments urges Federal legislators to support H.R. 5102 on its own merit to reduce the impacts of goods movement along trade corridors, and not to integrate it into the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETY-LU) reauthorization.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Executive Committee of the Western Riverside Council of Governments as follows:

The Western Riverside Council of Governments has acted to support H.R. 5102 so as to provide for the collection of a fee based on the fair market value of articles imported into the United States and articles exported from the United States in commerce and to use

the funding from the fees to make grants to carry out transportation projects in the transportation trade corridors for which the fee is collected.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the Executive Committee of the Western Riverside Council of Governments on this 4th day of February, 2008.

  
Jeff Stone, Vice Chair  
WRCOG Executive Committee

  
Rick Bishop,  
Secretary to the WRCOG Executive Committee

AYES: 16  
NOES: 0  
ABSENT: 2  
ABSTAIN: 0