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**Testimony of Landis Larson, ND AFL-CIO President
In Opposition of HCR 3001
January 7, 2021**

Chairman Ruby and members of the House Transportation Committee:

My name is Landis Larson, President of the North Dakota AFL-CIO. The North Dakota AFL-CIO is the federation of labor unions in North Dakota, representing the interests of all working people in our state.

I am testifying on behalf of the North Dakota AFL-CIO in opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 3001.

First and foremost, so-called “Road Trains” do not benefit working people, but only business. “Road Trains” increase the danger on the road, impacting working families while commuting to and from work, as well as those who put on many miles as part of their work duty. In North Dakota specifically, traffic fatalities already comprise a large number of deaths on the job, including some very close to our union family. All this while reducing road hours needed for those in the trucking industry to make ends meet.

Secondly, “Road Trains” put an unnecessary strain on our already underfunded and crumbling infrastructure. It isn’t fair to taxpayers to foot the bill for an experiment that only benefits a few enterprises. We simply cannot put more load on our public transportation infrastructure without drastically increasing funding to maintain service standards, little alone investing in additional infrastructure that these “Road Trains” may require.

Lastly, private industry has invested heavily in rail infrastructure in our state, which is a much more appropriate method for the transport of goods and materials. Not only are railroads intended to carry such loads, they also have the benefit of supporting good railroad jobs that workers can raise a family on, circulate wages in their community, and retire with dignity.

I recommend a “Do Not Pass” on House Concurrent Resolution 3001.

Respectfully Submitted,
Landis Larson
North Dakota AFL-CIO President