

No one appreciates more than I do the fine work you have done for harbors and intracoastal canal improvements everywhere, and here's hoping that you will succeed.

Thanking you for due consideration, I am  
Yours very truly,

OSCAR C. DANCY, *County Judge.*

**STATEMENT OF JOHN T. CORBETT, ASSISTANT GRAND CHIEF  
ENGINEER AND NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE FOR  
THE BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS**

Mr. CORBETT. My name is John T. Corbett. I hold the offices of assistant grand chief engineer and of national legislative representative of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. The headquarters are at 1118 B. of L. E. Building, Cleveland, Ohio, and the local office is at room 302, Labor Building, 10 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, D. C.

I appear in opposition to the provisions of bill H. R. 6999.

For the many years that our Government has been in existence the transportation conditions have been permitted to be extended and/or abandoned under a planless drifting system in which there appears neither a well-defined policy or any properly defined system or policy. It would appear from the provisions of this bill that the planless system appears as desirable, even though there has finally been at least one legally authorized effort made by the Congress to establish a transportation policy and to at least provide for a study of the present transportation agencies of the Nation and the needs of the Nation for further regulation, extensions, or abandonments of such agencies.

On September 18, 1940, bill S. 2009, which had been passed by the Congress, was approved and became Public Law No. 785, Seventy-sixth Congress, third session.

Title III, part 1, of that act provides for "Investigation of various modes of transportation," as follows:

SEC. 301. There is hereby established a Board of Investigation and Research (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") to be composed of three members who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, for the period of the existence of the Board as hereinafter provided. Not more than two members of said Board shall be members of the same political party. The President shall designate the member to act as Chairman of the Board and the Board may elect another of its members as Vice Chairman, who shall act as Chairman in the case of absence or incapacity of the Chairman. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum and the powers conferred upon the Board by this section may be exercised by a majority vote of its members. A vacancy on the Board shall not affect the powers of the remaining members to execute the functions of the Board, and shall be filled in the same manner as the original selection. The members of the Board shall receive compensation at the rate of \$10,000 per annum, and in addition shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the exercise of the functions vested in the Board. Carriers by railroad, motor carriers, and water carriers shall be permitted to provide free transportation and other carrier service to the Board and its employees while traveling on official business, regardless of any provisions in the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended, restricting such carriers from furnishing free transportation or service.

The CHAIRMAN. What is that act?

Mr. CORBETT. That is Public, No. 785, of the Seventy-sixth Congress, S. 2009. It provides for a board to make a study of the transportation facilities and the transportation needs of the country.