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NSTA Applauds Congress for Passage of FAST Act

ALEXANDRIA, VA, December 4, 2015 - The National School Transportation Association (NSTA) commends the House and Senate for swiftly passing the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act to reauthorize Federal surface transportation programs and advancing many of NSTA's priorities. Todd Monteferrario, President of NSTA stated "We applaud the House and Senate for working together to develop and pass the bipartisan conference report to reauthorize Federal surface transportation programs and for including several significant provisions to resolve issues currently threatening the viability of the private school bus industry."

NSTA is pleased that its highest priority issues were all included in the final conference report. These include a provision to require the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to do a comprehensive study of passenger carrier industries' accident and claims histories before being permitted to proceed to radically increase minimum insurance rates, a provision to require FMCSA to revise the methodology of the flawed Compliance, Safety and Accountability (CSA) program and significant general regulatory reform of the FMCSA to provide more accountability and input by industry stakeholders. NSTA noted support for several other provisions in the bill that will help foster positive and reasonable initiatives to ensure the industry's unmatched safety record continues into the future.

"NSTA thanks Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster, Ranking Member Peter DeFazio, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit Chairman Sam Graves, Highways and Transit Ranking Member Eleanor Holmes Norton, Congressman Scott Perry and Congressman Lou Barletta, Senate Commerce Science and Transportation Committee Chairman John Thune, and Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman James Inhofe for their leadership on this strong bipartisan bill that will ensure that the private school bus industry and the millions of children it transports to and from school safely every day, continue to thrive." states Ronna Sable Weber, Executive Director of NSTA.

About NSTA:

The National School Transportation Association has been the voice of private school bus contractors, manufacturers and suppliers for 50 years. The association provides school transportation professionals with the tools and resources they need to make school buses safe, affordable, and efficient nationwide. Offices are at 122 South Royal Street Alexandria, VA 22314. Phone: 703-684-3200. Fax: 703-684-3212.