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National School Transportation Association Praises the Administration’s Withdrawal of the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Financial Responsibility

Alexandria, VA — The National School Transportation Association (NSTA) praises the Trump Administration’s withdrawal of the November 28, 2014 Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Financial Responsibility and thanks Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA) and Congressman Scott Perry (R-PA) for their leadership on this issue.

The Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking requested comment on whether the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) should exercise its discretion to increase the minimum insurance requirements for commercial motor carriers and if so, to what levels. NSTA noted in its comments, submitted on February 25, 2015, that school transportation is the largest mass transportation fleet and school bus transportation has the best safety record of all mass transportation fleets. NSTA also recognized that the agency had not demonstrated that a need exists based on inadequate current federal insurance minimums nor how increasing those limits would improve safety. NSTA further noted that the agency did not provide any data or analysis specific to the school transportation industry.

“We are very pleased to see this proposal withdrawn. School bus transportation is the safest mode of transportation available and current federal insurance minimums are more than adequate. Above all, imposing a burdensome increase in limits without research or data would have caused unnecessary harm to the industry and its ability to continue to transport the nation’s schoolchildren safely,” offered NSTA Executive Director Ronna Weber.

About NSTA:
The National School Transportation Association has been the voice of private school bus contractors, manufacturers and suppliers for over 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.