

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

March 1, 2012

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States of America  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear President Obama:

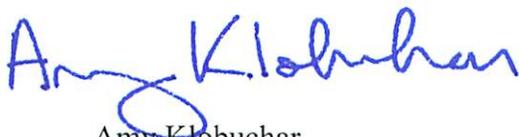
We respectfully request your prompt signature of S. 1134, the St. Croix River Crossing Project Authorization Act, which passed the United States Senate on January 23, 2012, and the United States House of Representatives on March 1, 2012.

The bipartisan legislation will allow construction of a new St. Croix River bridge to move forward. The existing crossing at the historic Stillwater Lift Bridge is broadly viewed as inadequate and in need of replacement. As the bridge has aged, closings for structural and vehicle collision repairs and maintenance inspections have increased. In addition, the bridge's unique function as a lift bridge, which lifts frequently to allow boats to travel the St. Croix River, is a source of severe traffic congestion. The St. Croix River Crossing Project Authorization Act would allow the Minnesota and Wisconsin Departments of Transportation to construct the bridge that Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton and Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker support.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation is the leading sponsor of the project, and Governor Dayton has announced that due to the necessary permitting and other preparatory work, legislation to allow the crossing to be constructed must be signed into law by March 15, 2012. Without enactment of authorization legislation by this date, the Minnesota and Wisconsin Departments of Transportation will have no other choice than to abandon the St. Croix River Crossing Project for 10 years or longer, or risk losing federal and state funding set aside for the project. For a region that has worked so hard for 30 years to advance the only truly viable transportation option, we should not make them wait any longer.

Thank you for your attention to this critical legislation that will increase safety, reduce congestion, improve mobility, and create thousands of much-needed construction jobs in the states of Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



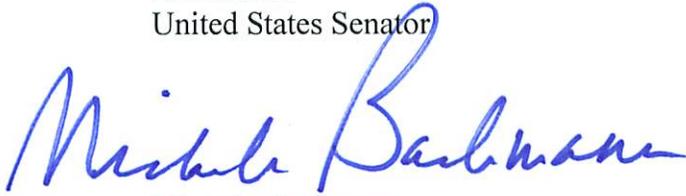
Herb Kohl  
United States Senator



Al Franken  
United States Senator



Ron Johnson  
United States Senator



Michele Bachmann  
Member of Congress



Ron Kind  
Member of Congress



Sean Duffy  
Member of Congress



Chip Cravaack  
Member of Congress



Tammy Baldwin  
Member of Congress