



Statement

For Immediate Release

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ACC WELCOMES STUDY OF PRECISION SCHEDULED RAILROADING

WASHINGTON (June 19, 2020) — The [U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee](#) approved a bill that calls for a federal study of the impacts of Precision Scheduled Railroading. In recent years, the major railroads have instituted significant changes to their operations that have been poorly communicated and disrupted the production of essential products. The [language that calls for the study](#) by the U.S. Government Accountability Office is part of the INVEST in America Act and was authored by Congressman Peter DeFazio (D-OR).

The American Chemistry Council's President & CEO, [Chris Jahn](#) issued the following statement regarding the new study:

“During several hearings, [Congress](#) and the [Surface Transportation Board \(STB\)](#) heard testimony from large and small businesses across America, including many of our members that have been hurt by the drastic operational changes adopted by the major railroads as part of their pursuit to implement Precision Scheduled Railroading (PSR). Changes were often made with little advance notice or consultation with customers and resulted in harmful service reductions and higher shipping costs.

“We commend the STB for its recent actions to address some of the problems that have been a direct result of PSR, including the Board's new [policies regarding demurrage charges](#). We also applaud Congressman DeFazio for his efforts to help stop unfair freight rail policies and his call for an objective and thorough examination of the impacts of PSR. The results of the study should help guide the STB as the Board continues to pursue additional freight rail policy reforms.”

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The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care®; common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues; and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a \$565 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is among the largest exporters in the nation, accounting for ten percent of all U.S. goods exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation's critical infrastructure.

