

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 12, 1974

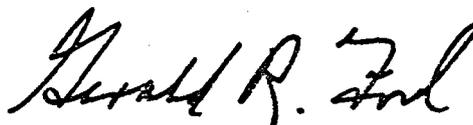
The Speaker of the
House of Representatives

Sir:

I ask the Congress to consider a proposed supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year 1975 amounting to \$10,200,000 for the Department of Transportation. This proposal will increase 1975 outlays by that amount.

Details of this proposal are outlined in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, with whose comments and observations I concur.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Gerald R. Ford".



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

December 12, 1974

The President

The White House

Sir:

I have the honor to submit for your consideration a proposed supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year 1975 in the amount of \$10,200,000 for the Department of Transportation, as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

INTERIM OPERATING ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses for "Interim operating assistance" under the Regional Rail Reorganization Act of 1973, \$10,200,000, to remain available until expended.

The Regional Rail Reorganization Act of 1973 authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to provide Federal payments to railroads in reorganization, in order to insure continuation of essential rail service, pending implementation of the Final System Plan.

Of the \$85 million authorized, \$74.8 million has been appropriated and \$36.1 million has been obligated. The \$10.2 million supplemental represents the unappropriated balance. This amount, combined with the \$38.7 million appropriated and not yet obligated, would cover the estimated \$48 million required through January. A heavy and unexpected demand on these funds is being caused by the coal strike and the decline in auto shipments. This proposal will increase 1975 outlays by \$10.2 million.

Approval of this supplemental is necessary during this session of Congress, to prevent service and employee cutbacks, which would adversely affect the economy of the region, and eventually the nation.

I have carefully reviewed the proposal for appropriations contained in this document and am satisfied that this request is necessary at this time. I recommend, therefore, that this proposal be transmitted to the Congress.

Respectfully,