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# United States Senate

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September 15, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Secretary Chao:

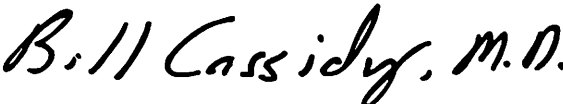
It has recently come to my attention that the St. Bernard Port, Harbor, and Terminal District is applying for funding from the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program. They are requesting \$13 million for the reconstruction of the Chalmette Slip.

The Port intends to rehabilitate wharf Sections A and F of the Chalmette Slip. The slip was constructed in 1907 and is the only deep-draft calm water slip on the Lower Mississippi. Section A must be completely rebuilt since it is functionally obsolete and partially collapsed. Section F is also functionally obsolete and in poor condition. While Section F can be structurally strengthened and upgraded, it requires bank stabilization work.

With a \$30 million total cost, the TIGER grant request of \$13 million constitutes 43.3% of the cost. The remaining \$17 million will come from the State of Louisiana, the Port, and private industry at the port.

I am thankful for the U.S. Department of Transportation's consideration in securing funding for this worthwhile project. I ask that you please keep my office informed on the progress of this proposal as well as when a final decision has been made regarding this grant. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael Eby in my Baton Rouge Office at (225) 929-7711.

Sincerely,



Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
United States Senator

BC\ME