

From: Transportation Committee Republicans
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COMMITTEE ON

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

SAM GRAVES, CHAIRMAN

PRESS RELEASE

Chairman Webster Statement from Roundtable on Combatting Cargo Theft

For Immediate Release: April 29, 2025

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Washington, D.C. - *Opening remarks, as prepared, of Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee Chairman Daniel Webster (R-FL) from today's roundtable, entitled "Combatting Cargo Theft: Stakeholder Perspectives":*

I would like to thank my colleague, Ranking Member Titus, for organizing this bipartisan roundtable discussion. And, I also want to thank our industry representatives for their attendance and input as well.

Cargo theft has long been a problem, but it is one that is now reaching epidemic proportions. Thefts from railroads alone increased 40 percent over the previous year. These thefts imposed \$35 billion in costs on the economy and supply chains.

Thieves target these supply chains in part because they are lucrative. They also do so because the risk of arrest and prosecution is low.

Much of our nation's cargo crosses state lines. Thefts are occurring all along this supply chain. That makes coordinating both prevention and prosecution difficult.

Worse, how thieves are obtaining cargo, including by cutting brake lines and sabotaging signals, creates significant hazards for train crews and the public.

What is clear is that the federal government needs to better partner with the states and supply chain stakeholders to develop more effective responses. I look forward to learning the advice of industry participants. Again, thank you all for attending.

Click [here](#) for more information, including a link to the live webcast.

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