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## Senate of Pennsylvania

March 18, 2021

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I represent the First District in the Pennsylvania Senate, and am proud to have the Philadelphia Port as an economic anchor in the community which I serve. This letter is to communicate my support for the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority's *Southport Wharf Development and Port Expansion* project which will be submitted for the 2021 USDOT discretionary grant programs.

I believe that if awarded this project will have significant benefits. The berths immediate proximity to vehicle and other rolling stock and container operations provide numerous efficiency and logistical benefits. Additional benefits of this project include the following:

- *Project would provide gateways to employment consistent with diverse composition of Philadelphia and surrounding counties.*
- *Improve the quality-of-life of residents and promote environmental sustainability by decreasing emissions*
- *Bring facilities to a state of good repair and improve resiliency by addressing current or projected vulnerabilities in the condition of port transportation facilities.*
- *Promote exports by increasing the efficient movement of automobile exports and increasing national export capacity*

These benefits include placing vehicles at a first point of rest in immediate proximity to the processing center, more efficient berthing operations and reducing transfers between processing centers. Once completed this will enable for more efficient export vehicle opportunities as well as intermodal delivery via rail.

If successful, the project will represent the first Deepwater berth construction in Philadelphia in almost 50 years. Thank you for your consideration of this application and our allowing us to demonstrate our support. I look forward to working with you to ensure the Port of Philadelphia's continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N. Saval'.

Nikil Saval  
State Senator  
1<sup>st</sup> Senatorial District