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TO:

The Honorable Maria Cantwell

Chair, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation **United States Senate**

511 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz

Ranking Member, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation **United States Senate**

127A Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

March 16, 2023

n behalf of the African American Mayors Association (AAMA), representing major cities along major arteries with major airport hubs, ports, and significant concerns around highway and marine safety, including San Francisco, CA; Denver, CO; Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL; New Orleans, LA; Baltimore, MD; Newark, NJ; New York City, NY; Charlotte, NC; Houston, TX; and Seattle, WA, we write to you to urge the swift confirmation of National Transportation Safety Board nominee, Mr. Alvin Brown. President Biden announced Mr. Brown's nomination on August 3, 2022 and sent the nomination to the Senate on January 23, 2023. AAMA commends and supports President Biden's nomination of this highly qualified and visionary leader who has been a tireless champion for cities, working for decades to build new opportunities and meet urgent needs in the public, private and not for profit sector.

Mr. Alvin Brown has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and advanced diversity and equity throughout his career. Brown served as the first Democrat elected and first Black Mayor of Jacksonville, Florida from 2011-2015. Under his leadership, Jacksonville became one of America's leading cities for innovation and improving quality of life and Mayor Brown was instrumental in achieving a broad range of policy and governing successes.

This is not Brown's first time serving the federal government. Brown previously served in the Clinton administration as Vice President Al Gore's Senior Advisor







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for Urban Policy, and Vice Chair of the White House Community Empowerment Board, where he led the \$4 billion community empowerment initiatives, including the Empowerment Zone / Enterprise Community Programs that revitalized impoverished urban and rural communities and generated unprecedented levels of public-private partnerships.

"President Biden has nominated an exceptional and passionate leader with an unparalleled breadth of experience in the public and private sector," said Little Rock, Arkansas Mayor and AAMA President Frank Scott, Jr. "His expertise as a strategic adviser on a wide range of domestic issues, including transportation, community revitalization and new business development will serve him well as a member of the National Transportation Safety Board."

Mr. Brown's exemplary record of driving innovation will serve him well as a member of the National Transportation Safety Board. Please take swift action to confirm this nomination.

Regards,

Frank Scott, Jr.

Mayor of Little Rock, Arkansas

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President, African American Mayors Association



