

News Release - For Immediate Release November 9, 2017 Contact: Michael Reeves (806) 775-2338 <u>Michael.Reeves@portstoplains.com</u>

Congressman Adrian Smith (NE-3), co-chairs Congressional Ports-to-Plains Caucus

A bipartisan Congressional Ports-to-Plains Caucus has been formed, and inducted as a Congressional Member Organization for the 115th Congress. This Caucus will serve as an informal group of Members dedicated to issues related to rural transportation and rural economic development in America's Heartland, with a focus on the corridor running from Texas to North Dakota and Montana, and educating other Members on the importance of this area is feeding, fueling, and clothing America's cities and urban areas.

Congressman Adrian Smith (NE-3), co-chair of the Congressional Ports-to-Plains Caucus says,

"Infrastructure and trade are crucial to growing our economy. The Ports-to-Plains corridor has a vital role to play in both arenas, connecting rural communities and helping transport agriculture and energy products to consumers around the world. President Trump has repeatedly voiced his commitment to revitalizing America's infrastructure, and our Ports-to-Plains Caucus is eager to work with the Trump administration and fellow Members of Congress on advancing rural transportation and economic development. As discussions on infrastructure move forward, we will continue to advocate for making rural transportation projects such as Ports-to-Plains a top priority."

Congressman Adrian Smith's role on the Committee on Ways and Means puts him on the front lines of the debate on how to create jobs, promote economic growth, and impact tax policy. He serves as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Human Resources and is also a member of the Subcommittee on Health.

The Committee on Ways and Means is the oldest committee of the United States Congress, and it derives a large share of its jurisdiction from Article I, Section VII of the U.S. Constitution which declares, "All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives."

Ports-to-Plains is a grassroots alliance of over 275 communities and businesses, including alliance partners Heartland Expressway, Theodore Roosevelt Expressway and Eastern Alberta Trade Corridor Coalition, whose mission is to advocate for a robust international transportation infrastructure to promote economic security and prosperity throughout North America's energy and agricultural heartland including Mexico to Canada. Additional information on the Ports-to-Plains Alliance is available at http://www.portstoplains.com/.

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