WRITTEN STATEMENT OF EDWARD C. EPPLER
NOMINEE TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES SENATE
JUNE 24, 2026

Chairman Cruz, Ranking Member Cantwell, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today as you consider my nomination for the position of Chief Financial Officer of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

I am grateful to President Trump for his trust in nominating me, to Senator Welch for that kind introduction, and to Secretary Duffy for his continued faith and support throughout this process.

I would like to introduce and thank my daughter Bea and her husband who are here with me today. Unfortunately, my other two children could not join us – one is expecting her third child any day now, and the other lives and works in London. As some of you know, my wife of nearly 36 years passed away recently, so having family support here today means a great deal to me.

I am deeply honored to have been nominated for this position. Sitting before you today on the eve of celebrating America's 250th Anniversary of independence, I hope to fulfill the role of "citizen statesman" as envisioned by our Founding Father's. The civic ideal calls for successful professionals to step away from private life to serve the nation—guided by reason rather than personal ambition—and contribute their talents for the good of

the nation. In many respects, this opportunity comes at the ideal moment in my professional career, sitting squarely at the intersection of my professional experience and my long-standing passion for aviation.

My career spans more than 30 years working alongside some of the world's leading aerospace, defense, and technology companies. I have served in a variety of senior finance and accounting roles—including as the Chief Financial Officer of a high-growth aerospace company—and spent decades as a global investment banker at Goldman Sachs and other Wall Street firms.

This background has given me a deep, global understanding of the aviation industry through hands-on work with clients across North America, Europe, and Asia. Furthermore, my advisory work in the defense and industrial sectors allowed me to collaborate closely with our nation's major shipbuilders, as well as the engineering and construction firms driving our transportation infrastructure forward.

As the Chief Financial Officer of a high growth aerospace company, I managed budget development and execution, oversaw financial performance, and ensured robust financial reporting and adherence to strict internal controls. I also led extensive capital raising initiatives and managed large capital projects. Crucially, this background gave me a firsthand look into the Advanced Air Mobility industry, especially the technological, regulatory, and global competitive shifts impacting the FAA and DOT today. I believe this exact blend of

fiscal discipline and industry insight will be highly valuable as the Department's next CFO.

On a personal note, I spent nearly thirty (30) years working in New York. I have a deep familiarity with some of our nation's busiest and most vital transportation assets—which include its dense networks of roads, bridges, tunnels, rails, and transit systems. Conversely, I've spent four of the past five years living and working in Vermont. This time in northern New England has given me a firsthand appreciation for the distinct challenges faced by rural communities, where a lack of sufficient infrastructure can directly impact economic opportunity. Finally, as an instrument-rated private pilot, I understand how our complex national airspace operates, leaving me with a profound commitment to air traffic modernization and the criticality of ensuring aviation safety.

If confirmed, I commit to working collaboratively with members of this Committee to ensure that the nation's highest-priority transportation goals are met. I will focus my office on accelerating project delivery wherever possible and ensuring robust financial oversight. I look forward to working with Secretary Duffy, President Trump and Members of this Committee to make our world-class transportation and infrastructure work for America.

Thank you. I look forward to answering your questions.