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States for
www.s4prc.org



Via Email

May 17, 2017

The Honorable Representative Diaz-Balart
Chairman, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban
Development, and Related Agencies
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David Price
Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and
Urban Development, and Related Agencies
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Diaz-Balart and Price:

The States for Passenger Rail Coalition, Inc. (SPRC) is an advocacy group comprised of State
departments of transportation and passenger rail authority leaders from across the nation who
work together to support the development and growth of passenger rail service throughout the
United States.

Established in January 2000, the SPRC currently has members representing the States of
California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan,
Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania,
Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin. Additional members include the Capitol
Corridor Joint Powers Authority, the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor
Agency, the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority, and the Northern New England Passenger
Rail Authority.

Our 25 members sponsor a combined 30 intercity passenger rail (ICPR) routes serving 296
communities across America, with two States also connecting to Canada. Last year our trains
carried almost 15 million passengers, representing 48% of Amtrak's total ridership. We also
contributed \$786 million in revenues to Amtrak, through \$565 million in passenger revenues
plus \$223 million in contract payments.

As ICPR sponsors, our members are steadfastly committed to safety, service quality, and
reliability. Safety is paramount to our services and we are committed to ensuring it for all
passengers, employees, host railroads, and the communities we serve. National safety
statistics show that passengers and rail employees are safer on intercity trains than any other
mode of transportation. We believe that a strong and reliable national system approach to
intercity passenger rail is critical to ensuring safety and mobility for all, and applaud your
recognition of this through your funding and legislative directives.

On behalf of all SPRC members, I would like to thank you for your leadership in providing
funding for the passenger rail programs authorized in the FAST Act, and appropriated in the
FFY 2017 Omnibus Act. SPRC members look forward to competing for funding under the
programs for Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements, Federal-State

California
Connecticut
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Louisiana
Massachusetts
Maine
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nevada
New York
North Carolina
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
Wisconsin
Capitol Corridor
Joint Powers
Authority
Northern
New England
Passenger
Rail Authority
LOSSAN Joint Powers
Authority
San Joaquin Joint
Powers Authority

Partnership for State of Good Repair, and the Restoration and Enhancement Grants. We are also most appreciative of your successful efforts to include ongoing funding for the work of the State-Supported Route Committee, the Gulf Coast Rail Service Working Group, the Southeast Corridor and the multi-modal National Infrastructure Investment or "TIGER" program.

In concert with the work of the Subcommittee, we invite you to visit any of our systems across America, to experience personally the benefits of intercity passenger rail service that are the result of funding you have provided. SPRC members would be more than happy to arrange visits, facility tours, or other opportunities to experience the fastest growing segment of the passenger rail business.

Again, thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,



Paul C. Worley, CPM
Chair, the States for Passenger Rail Coalition, Inc.
Rail Division Director
North Carolina Department of Transportation