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News Release

For Immediate Release

March 21, 2014

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States for Passenger Rail Coalition Comments on the Proposed Amtrak Budget

Portland, ME - March 21, 2014 - "Amtrak's FY2015 budget proposal should be part of the ongoing discussion about long-term transportation finance in this country," observed Patricia Quinn, Chair of the States for Passenger Rail Coalition, Inc. (S4PRC) and Executive Director of the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority (NNEPRA). The S4PRC strongly supports the call for dedicated funding for intercity passenger rail coupled with contract authority to enable major capital projects. Further, longer distance trains are indeed in the national interest, and, therefore, a federal responsibility rather than that of states or Amtrak. "States and regional passenger rail authorities will continue to be engaged stakeholders in providing safe, frequent and reliable intercity passenger rail service as part of a national rail system, and we look forward to working with Amtrak and the Congress in the development of the FY 2015 budget for the national state-supported intercity passenger rail network" Ms. Quinn stated.

S4PRC, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 organization composed of the rail divisions from over 20 states as well as passenger rail authorities. For more than 10 years the group has worked to enhance the role of intercity passenger rail service throughout the nation. For more information visit www.s4prc.org.