



New Hampshire Joins States for Passenger Rail Coalition; Membership Now Totals 31 States

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WASHINGTON, DC — The state of New Hampshire has joined the States for Passenger Rail Coalition (www.s4prc.org), bringing to 31 the number of states in the national intercity passenger rail organization.

The addition of New Hampshire marks an important step in the coalition's growth, as it gives the coalition a solid block of membership in the Northeast. Established in early 2000, the States for Passenger Rail Coalition is an alliance of state departments of transportation that supports intercity passenger rail initiatives and advocates for federal funding.

Since its inception the coalition has successfully advocated for greater and more stable federal funding for intercity passenger rail service. The coalition was instrumental in obtaining the \$8 billion in new funding for passenger rail projects in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and helped advance the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008, which authorized \$13 billion in spending for intercity passenger rail service over five years.

“New Hampshire is thrilled to join the States for Passenger Rail Coalition, and participate in its efforts to expand America's national passenger rail system. Our joining the coalition now gives the organization a solid presence throughout the Northeast United States,” New Hampshire Transportation Commissioner George N. Campbell Jr. said.

Coalition Chair Frank Busalacchi, who also is Wisconsin Secretary of Transportation, said the coalition’s continued growth shows the growing commitment of states in all parts of the country to expanding intercity passenger rail service.

“We extend a warm welcome to New Hampshire to the States for Passenger Rail Coalition,” Chairman Busalacchi said. “I am particularly pleased that we are a growing organization that is geographically diverse, with member states in the Northeast, South, Midwest and West Coast. These states have stepped up to the plate and shown their serious commitment to expanding our nation’s passenger rail system.”

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