



March 14, 2025

Honorable Secretary Sean Duffy
U.S Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy,

On behalf of our members, the States for Passenger Rail Coalition (SPRC) congratulates you on your confirmation as Secretary of Transportation of the Department of Transportation (DOT). We were grateful to hear of your strong commitment to working with states to improve passenger rail during your nomination hearing before the Senate Commerce Committee. We look forward to working alongside you and your team to promote the development and expansion of the passenger rail network in America.

SPRC is a “states only” passenger rail organization, composed of 26 state departments of transportation and passenger rail authorities across the U.S. SPRC’s state members work to deliver a variety of passenger rail services including Amtrak state-supported routes, the Northeast Corridor service, and long-distance service. SPRC members support state-managed rail projects which enhance our nation’s freight and passenger rail network, promote the research, planning, development, operation, and expansion of intercity rail services, advocate for state and federal rail infrastructure funding, and facilitate cooperation amongst the public and private sectors at the federal, state, and local levels.

Intercity passenger rail serves people across the country, connecting families in both our rural and urban communities. Improving our intercity rail network is vital for passengers who rely on rail service for access to jobs, healthcare, and education. States are the primary agencies responsible for planning and improving intercity passenger rail service. We rely on our partners at FRA and Amtrak to ensure those plans are carried out efficiently. We urge you to carefully consider staff reductions at the Federal Railroad Administration, which could put the accomplishments of the states at risk.

We send our best wishes as you embark on the critical task of improving the mobility and safety of travelers across the U.S. We look forward to a strong partnership with U.S. DOT to promote a strong, integrated national transportation network that benefits the American people for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Chair, States for Passenger Rail Coalition

