



Joseph H. Boardman
President and Chief Executive Officer

July 29, 2010

Honorable Member of Congress
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

I am writing to advise you what the impact to Amtrak would be if Representative Bachmann's amendment to eliminate \$1.2 billion in capital funding is adopted during today's floor debate of the FY11 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies bill. If enacted, Amtrak would have no capital investment program for FY11. The lack of a capital funding program would deny intercity passenger rail service to 29 million people in over 500 communities in 46 states. Amtrak is on track to have the highest ridership year ever, carrying more people, more places than we did two years ago when the country was experiencing record high gas prices. This amendment would require us to furlough nearly all of our 20,000 employees who live in nearly every state in the Union. It would hamper the operation of key commuter rail services in major metropolitan areas including much of the Northeast, Chicago, Seattle, and Northern and Southern California, and we would default on commercial loans which finance most of our equipment.

Just under two years ago, Congress recognized the importance of intercity passenger rail and approved a reauthorization of Amtrak in the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act. Amtrak's appropriations request for FY11 is in line with this congressionally-approved authorization.

Investment in Amtrak's capital program creates jobs, provides energy efficient mobility, and allows us to keep America's passenger railroad safe and reliable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Boardman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "B".

Joe Boardman
President and Chief Executive Officer