



March 23, 2005

The Honorable Rick Santorum
United States Senate
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Santorum:

We are writing to express our profound shock and disappointment over your March 16 vote against funding for Amtrak.

Your vote ignored the needs of our state. Amtrak is an essential part of both Pennsylvania's economy and its transportation system. Pennsylvania ridership was 4.8 million passengers last year, and Philadelphia is Amtrak's third busiest station. Both SEPTA and New Jersey Transit commuter rail operate on Amtrak's infrastructure.

Amtrak employs over 3,000 residents of our state, and in 2004 spent \$123 million on goods and services in Pennsylvania. GE Transportation in Erie builds Amtrak locomotives, and Johnstown America is building 80 auto-carrier cars for the railroad's popular Auto Train service.

Simply put, an Amtrak bankruptcy would be a disaster for Pennsylvania, and your vote brings us a step closer to that.

Your vote is also troubling because your public comments in the days and weeks preceding the vote expressed opposition to the Bush plan to end funding for Amtrak. But in the end, it's how a politician votes, not how he talks.

In contrast, we were pleased to see Senator Specter vote to support Amtrak. By standing up for the needs of our state, Senator Specter demonstrated his independence and his refusal to make Amtrak a partisan political issue. This is why Pennsylvania workers have long supported him.

Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO

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Edward Wytkind, President • Michael A. Ingrao, Secretary-Treasurer



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We would like to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss this critically important issue.

Dean Devita
General Chairman, System Council 2
National Conference of Firemen & Oilers,
SEIU

Jed Dodd
General Chairman, Pennsylvania Federation
Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way
Employees Division, IBT

Dewey Garland
Director of Railroad and Shipyard Workers
Sheet Metal Workers International
Association

Michael Giansante
General Chairman, System Council 7,
International Brotherhood of Electrical
Workers

Don Hahs
National President
Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and
Trainmen, IBT

Raymond McMullen
General Chairman
International Association of Machinists and
Aerospace Workers

Michael O'Brien
International President
Transport Workers Union of America

Greg Pardlo
International Vice President
American Train Dispatchers Association

Al Rush
Assistant General Chairman, Amtrak East
Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen

Robert Scardelletti
President
Transportation•Communications Union

cc: Edward Wytkind, President, Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO
William M. George, President, Pennsylvania AFL-CIO
George Francisco, Chair, Rail Labor Division, Transportation Trades Department,
AFL-CIO