

General Talking Points Against Mr. Session's Amendment Concerning Amtrak Long-Distance Routes

- The Sessions amendment would prohibit any grant funds appropriated pursuant to this Act to be used by Amtrak for making necessary safety or security improvements along 10 Amtrak routes (with the exception of the tunnels in New York, Baltimore, and Union Station).
- Many of these routes provide essential transportation services to rural areas; some of them enabled Amtrak to bring water and food to the people in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina and to Hurricane victims.
- The Top 10 Long-Distance Routes Referenced in this amendment are:
 - RT16: Silver Service/Palmetto from New York to Miami via Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore, Washington, Richmond, Raleigh, Columbia, Savannah, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa, and Miami. **Serves 457,592 passengers.**

- RT17: Three Rivers from New York to Chicago. **This service no longer exists.**
- RT19: Silver Meteor from New York to Miami via Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore, Washington, Richmond, Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, Tampa, and Ft. Lauderdale. **Serves 272,879 passengers.**
- RT 18: Cardinal from Washington to Chicago via Charleston, WV, Cincinnati, and Indianapolis. **Serves 95,076 passengers.**
- RT26: Capitol Limited from Washington to Chicago via Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Toledo. **Serves 198,044 passengers.**
- RT28: Southwest Chief from Chicago to Los Angeles via Kansas City, Topeka, Albuquerque, and Flagstaff. **Serves 300,416 passengers.**
- RT30: City of New Orleans from Chicago to New Orleans via Memphis. **Serves 175,237 passengers.**

- RT33: Sunset Limited Orlando to Los Angeles via Jacksonville, Tallahassee, Pensacola, Mobile, New Orleans, Houston, San Antonio, and Tucson. **Serves 51,860 passengers.**
- RT45: Lake Short Ltd from New York to Chicago via Albany, Syracuse, Buffalo, Cleveland, and Toledo. **Serves 323,480 passengers.**
- RT52: Crescent from New York to New Orleans via Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore, Washington, D.C., Greensboro, Charlotte, Greenville, Atlanta, and Birmingham. **Serves 252,072 passengers.**
- We should not jeopardize the safety and security of 2,126,656 passengers or the communities through which these trains operate.