

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS,
Chicago, Ill., June 19, 1968.

HON. SAMUEL N. FRIEDEL,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Transportation and Aeronautics, House Interstate
and Foreign Commerce Committee, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The National Association of Railroad Passengers strongly supports HR 16024, which would extend the High Speed Ground Transportation Act. We concur with the recommendation that the bill be amended to provide for a two-year extension instead of one year as presently drafted.

NARP's 2400 members throughout the country are users of rail passenger service. They believe that exclusive reliance on air and highway transport alone will not meet future needs. The "Northeast Corridor" program holds great promise not only for improving transportation in that crowded area, but for pointing the way towards improved passenger train service in all parts of America. Certainly the technology and experience developed in the Northeast Corridor can be applied to similar intercity corridors throughout the country.

In recent weeks, attention has been focused upon the regrettable delays in beginning high-speed "Metroliner" service between New York and Washington. While we too are concerned about this problem, we urge that these temporary difficulties not stand in the way of prompt action by Congress on extension of the program.

Since our formation a year ago, NARP has often been critical of the railroad industry's attitude and policies towards passenger service. Hence, it is a pleasure to commend Penn Central for the time, money, and energy it is committing to the "Northeast Corridor" project. NARP believes that this kind of attitude and commitment by responsible railroad management can and will attract new passengers who will use efficient and comfortable trains.

We would appreciate it if this letter could be made part of the hearing record.

Very truly yours,

ANTHONY HASWELL, *Executive Director.*

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS,
Washington, D.C., June 14, 1968.

HON. HARLEY O. STAGGERS,
Chairman, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Enclosed for insertion in the record of the hearings on the High Speed Ground Transportation legislation is a resolution by the National Legislative Highway Committee.

This committee, composed of key State legislators concerned with transportation matters, has asked that this statement be made part of the committee record. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. R. JOHNSON,
Legislative Assistant.

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

Whereas we live in a time when it is increasingly easier, safer, and faster to fly between cities, or drive from one state to another, than it is to drive from our suburban homes to the office downtown, and,

Whereas the challenge of mass transportation in the Nation's growing metropolitan areas is one of the most serious problems facing the states today, and,

Whereas population, motor vehicle registration, and miles traveled by all vehicles in urban areas will almost double in a decade, and,

Whereas problems of traffic congestion, lack of parking facilities, decline in patronage of public transit systems, and lack of adequate integration of different modes of transportation add up to a chaotic urban transportation situation: Now, therefore, be it