Dear Senator/ Representative\_\_\_\_\_\_

I strongly support passenger rail in Ohio and you should, too.

I’m also grateful Governor DeWine took the first step in this direction by identifying two rail corridors for development, and by seeking federal funding to study them.

Personally, I am passionate about passenger rail because I want Ohio to thrive, as I have a young-adult daughter **(family member or your own story here why you want passenger rail)** that would like to pursue a career here and is seeking the types of jobs that strong states with solid transportation options provide.

**Benefits to Ohio of passenger rail:**

* **Jobs/ Workforce Development -** Each $1billion invested in fast, frequent passenger rail supports about 24,000 jobs
* **Manufacturing -** Ohio is home to 146 companies in the rail supply chain that already support 23,000 jobs. They will be helping manufacture the next generation of passenger rail equipment
* **Productivity** - Rail passengers can use travel time to work rather than fight highway traffic
* **Improved Connectivity -** 20% of Ohioans do not own a car, air travel is an increasing hassle, and many more Ohioans do not wish to drive long distances (even to visit family).
* **Economic growth -** A recent U.S. Conference of Mayors study found that, by 2035, a higher-speed rail line through Los Angeles alone would create $7.6 billion in related sales; a line through Chicago would create $6.1 billion; a line through Albany, $2.5billion.
* **Good for Ohio Business -** To attract the jobs and workers of tomorrow, Ohio must provide the transportation options to compete. The Columbus Partnership, Columbus and Cincinnati Chambers of Commerce, Downtown Cleveland Alliance and many more business leaders support Ohio’s expansion of passenger rail.

This is why I ask you, as my state Representative/ Senator, to do everything you can to ensure that viable passenger rail expands in Ohio. Here’s how you and your colleagues can act:

* First, support making Amtrak’s “Cardinal”, now serving Cincinnati, a daily train. You can also support adding more trains to Amtrak’s existing Lake Shore Limited and Capitol Limited so Northern Ohio gets trains that stop during daytime hours. You can support both of the above at <https://fralongdistancerailstudy.org/>
* You can also support Governor DeWine & Ohio’s grant application to the FRA for the 3C&D and Cleveland-Toledo-Detroit corridors by emailing FRA Director Amit Bose at FRAGA@dot.gov

Thank you for your time and support.