

The Honorable John Thune, Chairman The Honorable Bill Nelson, Ranking Member Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Thune and Ranking Member Nelson:

The Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) strongly supports the provision in the recently approved DRIVE Act that would provide a three-year extension to the deadline for implementation of Positive Train Control systems on railroads. We also appreciate that the measure authorizes funds specifically for PTC implementation.

While DCTA is deeply committed to meeting the highest safety standards for our riders, we have faced barriers beyond our control that will prevent us from meeting the December 2015 PTC deadline. As the deadline approaches, the DCTA Board of Directors, staff, and outside counsel are engaging in serious discussions about how to proceed on January 1 should Congress not provide any relief from the PTC mandate.

If it is determined that the liability risks would be too great for our relatively small railroad, the DCTA Board could consider suspending service on the A-Train. Unfortunately, such a move would likely be devastating not only for our rail commuters, but the financial impacts on the agency could affect our bus service as well.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and we are hopeful that Congress can agree on a PTC extension as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

James C. Cline, Jr., P.E.

President

cc: The Honorable John Cornyn, United States Senate

The Honorable Ted Cruz, United States Senate