

Opening Statement of

Jeffrey R. Moreland

Nominated for the Amtrak Board of Directors

Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation

United States Senate

Washington, D.C.

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Chairman Rockefeller, Ranking Member Hutchinson, and distinguished members of the Committee, I greatly appreciate the opportunity to be considered to serve on Amtrak's Board. I am honored that the President has nominated me to serve. In addition, I am thankful for Senator Hutchinson's encouragement throughout this process.

I would like to briefly describe my background and qualifications for the position on Amtrak's Board. In addition, I will outline some of the issues I see facing Amtrak, but most importantly, I would appreciate the views of the members of this distinguished Committee on critical issues facing Amtrak.

I have an undergraduate degree from Georgetown University's School of Business, a Juris Doctorate degree from The Columbus School of Law at Catholic University and a MBA from the University of Chicago, School of Business. I started my career in government service and worked at the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C. for eight years. In 1978, I joined Santa Fe Industries, the parent company of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway, in Chicago, Illinois. From then until I retired in 2007, I worked for companies that operated freight railroads. For the last twelve of those years, I worked in Fort Worth, Texas as an executive officer for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. During those almost thirty years in the railroad business, I experienced freight railroads' Boards of Directors questioning whether freight railroads would survive, on through to today where freight railroads are not only surviving but investing large amounts of capital to increase their capacity for the efficient movement of freight in the United States.

Amtrak, like the freight railroads, has struggled for decades. However, I believe that with the proper support and encouragement from both Congress and the Administration and with a focused and stable Board of Directors and management team, the future of Amtrak is bright. Amtrak has made progress in recent years, and

I believe these positive trends can continue. Just as it is important to have multiple means of moving freight, it is critically important to this country that we have multiple means of moving passengers throughout the United States. I also believe it is important to the United States passenger transportation system that Amtrak maintain a nationwide rail system and develop high- speed rail corridors in many areas of the United States.

I believe the primary role of the directors of Amtrak is to ensure that the organization is run in the manner that Congress and the Administration intends for it to be run. The Board needs to clearly set Amtrak's strategic direction and monitor Amtrak's compliance with such direction. It must ensure that capital is allocated properly and it must set goals and monitor such goals that will show to the public that Amtrak is successful. If confirmed by the Senate, I feel I can play a constructive role in this effort.

Thank you for your consideration of my nomination and I welcome any observations or questions that members of this Committee may have.