



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*House of Representatives*  
*State House, Boston, MA 02133-1054*

JAMES J. O'DAY  
REPRESENTATIVE  
14TH WORCESTER DISTRICT

CHAIRMAN:  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPALITIES  
AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

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September 29, 2016

Chairman Daniel R. Elliott III  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
September 29, 2016  
Part of  
Public Record

RE: GENESEE & WYOMING INC. - ACQUISITION OF CONTROL EXEMPTION - PROVIDENCE AND  
WORCESTER RAILROAD COMPANY DOCKET NUMBER 36064

Dear Chairman Elliott:

I recently submitted correspondence to the Board expressing support for the restoration of passenger service between Worcester, MA and Providence, RI and the approval of the Petition for Exemption of the Boston Surface Railroad Company, Inc.; which you saw fit to grant.

I am now writing in regards to the proposed acquisition of The Providence and Worcester Railroad by Genesee & Wyoming, Inc. While the proposed acquisition may increase economic activity across New England as a whole it seems that very little local benefit would be realized, and a very large holding corporation based outside the region, Genesee & Wyoming would have little incentive to ensure otherwise.

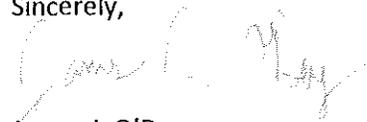
As a State Representative for the Commonwealth it is my privilege to advocate for projects both public and private that would bring more employment, education, and transportation options to my constituents; and the linking via passenger rail of two of the largest cities in New England, Worcester and Providence would do just that. Further as a member of the Central Massachusetts Labor Council it is encouraging to see a startup entity such as Boston Surface so Labor friendly from the outset.

Since the completion of the Passenger Rail Project started by Providence and Worcester and Boston Surface would have a profoundly greater impact on the lives of not just the residents and businesses in my district but that of the entire corridor between Worcester and Providence, it is with respect that I ask the board to only grant the above referenced petition on the condition that Genesee and Wyoming

proceed with Boston Surface to restore passenger rail as the Board has previously given permission to do.

If you have any questions please contact Cinda Danh in my office at [cinda.danh@mahouse.gov](mailto:cinda.danh@mahouse.gov) or 617-722-2090.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James J. O'Day".

James J. O'Day

State Representative

14<sup>th</sup> Worcester District

Cc: Parties of Record via Electronic Mail