

STATE OF TEXAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

P.O. BOX 2910
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910
(512) 463-0598
FAX: (512) 463-2297



Yvonne Davis
DISTRICT 111

5787 SOUTH HAMPTON RD.
SUITE 447
DALLAS, TEXAS 75232
(214) 941-3895
FAX: (214) 941-6859

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May 13, 2016

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Office of Proceedings
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Public Record

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

Re: Finance Docket No. 36025

Dear Chairman Elliott:

As Texas continues to experience rapid population growth, we in the state Legislature are tasked with helping to ensure that sufficient resources are available to meet the infrastructure needs of our growing state. With more than 80,000 lane miles under state control, the ongoing maintenance liabilities for these roads combined with the strong need and demand for additional facilities, state transportation resources are in high demand.

A private, Texas-based company, Texas Central has proposed a high-speed rail project that would connect Texas' two major population centers, North Texas and the Houston Area. I am writing to express my support for this development as a valuable enhancement to our state's multimodal transportation network. Texas Central has already invested millions of dollars towards bringing a high-speed rail option to our part of the country. This project would connect two large and growing metro areas that are not currently served by passenger rail, thereby enhancing Texas' interstate passenger rail network.

It is my hope that the Surface Transportation Board's involvement in this project encourages private sector involvement while protecting the interests of the State of Texas, taxpayers and the traveling public.

I encourage you to confirm the jurisdiction over this project as part of the interstate rail network and move for review of the Texas Central petition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Yvonne Davis".
Yvonne Davis
State Representative
District 111

cc: Ms. Deb Miller, Vice Chairman
Ms. Ann D. Begeman, Member