



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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SENATOR HARRIETTE L. CHANDLER  
MAJORITY LEADER

*First Worcester District*

October 4, 2016

Chairman Daniel R. Elliot III  
Vice Chairman Deb Miller  
Member Ann D. Begeman  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423

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HARRIETTE.CHANDLER@MASENATE.GOV  
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RE: Genesee & Wyoming Inc.- Acquisition of Control Exemption- Providence and Worcester Railroad Company Docket #36064

Dear Chairman Elliot, Vice Chairman Miller, and Member Begeman:

I am writing in support of the Boston Surface Railroad Company, Inc. (BSRC), which I wrote in support of in September for the operation of a passenger rail service on the Providence and Worcester Railroad (Finance Docket 36043). I wrote to express my support for the project and the economic and social benefits that it would bring to my constituents here in Worcester, and am writing once more to express my concern for a proposed change in the control of the Providence and Worcester Railroad by Genesee & Wyoming, Inc.

BSRC would require the support of the Providence and Worcester Railroad as both a customer and partner, something which I understand was already developing. However, it is my concern that with the proposed change in control to Genesee, overall benefits for local freight customers in Massachusetts would decrease and reduce local jobs as the companies are "streamlined". Also, if Genesee does not proceed with the passenger rail project, considerable economic and social benefits would be offset and lost.

I respectfully request that the Board not grant control to Genesee unless the company takes appropriate steps to preserve local union labor and proceed with the restoration of passenger rail service between Worcester and Providence.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Harriette L. Chandler*

Harriette L. Chandler  
Massachusetts Senate Majority Leader  
1<sup>st</sup> Worcester District

CC: Parties of Record via Electronic Mail