

240166

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
February 22, 2016
Part of
Public Record

EP -728

Implementing Intercity Passenger Train On-Time Performance and Preference Provisions

David Landeweer
932 N. Chestnut Ave.
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
Landeweer@aol.com

It is incomprehensible that the traveling public is subject to sometimes incredible delays due to scheduling by the freight railroads. It is obvious that profit overrides any concern over missed connections, missed meetings, and just general inconvenience that occurs to probably hundreds, maybe thousands of people every day. On our most recent trip last summer, we were heading home to Chicago and ONLY about 1.5 hours behind schedule. We pulled out of Columbus Wisconsin and then sat on a siding for 4.5 hours. Our conductor kept us fully informed as best he could. However, the only thing he could tell us is that the freight dispatcher is holding us and wouldn't give him any details. Mind boggling. Just imagine how many more people would utilize long distance trains, regional trains and even commuter trains if they could be counted on to arrive at their destination on time. We just came back from Europe where we took about 10 different trains and everyone except one arrived at their destination on time or only a minute or two late. I've given up hope of having anything in this country that even approaches train systems in parts of the rest of the world. However, if there is one thing that could be done is to give passenger trains and the traveling public the confidence that they will arrive at their destination on time.