

# **WASHINGTON CITIZENS NEED TO KNOW**

## **THE BUSH WHITE HOUSE WANTS TO ABOLISH AMTRAK**

### **THE BUSH BUDGET PROPOSES ZERO FUNDING FOR AMTRAK FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR**

### **IF BUSH SUCCEEDS, WASHINGTON CITIZENS WILL PAY THE PRICE — THE ECONOMIC IMPACT WILL BE ENORMOUS —**

- Elimination of the *Cascades* service (Eugene-Portland-Seattle-Vancouver, B.C.) as well as service to Chicago and Los Angeles on the *Coast Starlight* and the *Empire Builder*, stranding over one million passengers. Business riders, students, families and tourists will be forced to turn to overly congested highways and airlines.
- More than 500 Washington residents employed by Amtrak – with a collective annual payroll of over \$23 Million – stand to lose their jobs. Bush's action would deal yet another blow to an already struggling Washington economy.
- Washington businesses that in 2003 and 2004 provided nearly \$58 million in goods and services related to Amtrak would feel a staggering economic impact.
- Associated small businesses in and around Amtrak stations throughout Washington that depend on providing goods and services in connection with Amtrak service will also struggle, if not ultimately fail.

### **AS IF LOSING AMERICA'S RAILROAD IS NOT ENOUGH,**

## **THE ECONOMIC FALLOUT IN WASHINGTON WILL BE STAGGERING!**

## **BUSH APPOINTED AMTRAK BOARD ENGINEERING AMTRAK'S DEMISE**

- Amtrak's Board of Directors is killing Amtrak from within. Board members, all Bush appointees, have abandoned any semblance of fiduciary responsibility and appear willing, at the direction of the White House, to put Amtrak in bankruptcy.
- Amtrak's Board failed to meet its February 15, 2005 deadline for submitting Amtrak's funding request for the upcoming fiscal year – a clear signal of this Board's intent to aid and abet Amtrak's downfall.
- David Laney, the Bush-appointed Amtrak Board Chairman, submitted a letter to Congress that stated, in part “THE AMTRAK REFORM BOARD AGREES THAT THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET OF 'ZERO' IS THE RIGHT MESSAGE.”

**THE MESSAGE IS CLEAR - THE THREAT IS REAL  
GEORGE BUSH & THE AMTRAK BOARD  
WANT TO ABOLISH AMTRAK**

**ACT NOW – THEY MUST BE STOPPED!**

**America & Washington  
Need Amtrak !**

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**CONTACT SENATOR PATTY MURRAY TODAY  
CONTACT SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL TODAY  
CONTACT YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE TODAY  
CONTACT GOVERNOR CHRISTINE GREGOIRE TODAY  
CONTACT YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE TODAY**  
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**URGE THEM TO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR AMTRAK**

produced by union labor