



State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
PO Box 001
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0001

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

April 6, 2017

The Honorable Robert Menéndez
United States Senator
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Cory Booker
United States Senator
359 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Menendez and Booker:

The multiple train derailments at Penn Station New York (PSNY) and the severe service disruption they continue to cause beleaguered commuters in New Jersey is inexcusable. I know you agree that Amtrak has an obligation to properly maintain the rail infrastructure comprising the Northeast Corridor (NEC) in a state-of-good repair, including tracks and assets at PSNY. But Amtrak has manifestly failed to do so, notwithstanding the substantial sums provided by Congress and NJ TRANSIT for that very purpose. Indeed, earlier this morning, Amtrak admitted that both recent derailments at PSNY were caused by faulty tracks.

In spite of increased financial support from NJ TRANSIT in accordance with the requirements of the Passenger Rail Improvement Act of 2008, Amtrak evidently remains unwilling or unable to maintain critical infrastructure on the NEC in a state-of-good-repair. NJ TRANSIT passengers are perhaps the most severely affected victims of Amtrak's neglect and disregard.

Accordingly, I call upon you to exercise the full range of oversight powers available to the Congress to hold Amtrak accountable and ensure it is effectively using taxpayers and commuter dollars to ensure the safe and efficient use of the NEC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Christie".

Chris Christie
Governor