

# Oklahoma State Senate

Senator Bill Coleman

Vice Chairman

Business, Commerce & Tourism  
Committee

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Committee Membership

Appropriations Subcommittee  
on General Government & Transportation

Transportation

Public Safety

Rules

## PROUDLY SERVING SENATE DISTRICT 10

May 25, 2022

The Honorable Amit Bose  
Administrator  
Federal Railroad Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Bose,

We, the undersigned members of the Oklahoma State Senate, request the Amtrak *Heartland Flyer* corridor from Ft. Worth, Texas, to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and the proposed extension to Newton, Kansas, be designated by the Federal Railroad Administration for the Corridor Development Planning process.

As communities in states seek ways to strengthen local economies, a key factor driving business recruitment and retention, and residential relocation is quality of life. An important quality of life factor is local and interregional transportation. Our communities along the route of the Amtrak *Heartland Flyer* can point to the benefits of having this service. We would like to extend those benefits by opening up new destinations to the north and additional frequencies. Connecting the *Heartland Flyer* Corridor with Amtrak's *Southwest Chief* service in Newton, Kansas, opens existing and new communities to more service and destinations throughout the country.

The key to opening these opportunities for our communities and residents is getting the *Heartland Flyer* route and proposed extension, as a component of the Federal Railroad Administration's corridor development plan. Oklahoma has been a partner with Amtrak and the Federal Government since 1999. With the addition of \$66 billion in advanced appropriations for rail expansion, the U.S. can now make the long overdue investments in rail that can benefit the nation, its communities, economies, and travelers. We, the undersigned members of the Oklahoma legislature will work to secure appropriate matching funds to realize this project. The *Heartland Flyer* extension and frequency additions will be a valuable contribution to Oklahoma's transportation network.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Senator Mary Boren

  
Senator Michael Brooks

  
Senator George Burns

  
Senator Bill Coleman

  
Senator Julie Daniels

  
Senator Kim David

  
Senator Jo Anna Dossett

  
Senator J.J. Dossett

  
Senator Tom Dugger

  
Senator Kay Floyd

  
Senator Jessica Garvin

  
Senator Chuck Hall

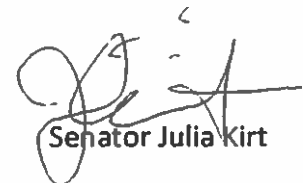
  
Senator John Haste


  
Senator Carri Hicks

  
Senator Brent Howard

  
Senator Darcy Jech

  
Senator Chris Kidd

  
Senator Julia Kirt

  
Senator James Leewright

  
Senator Kevin Matthews

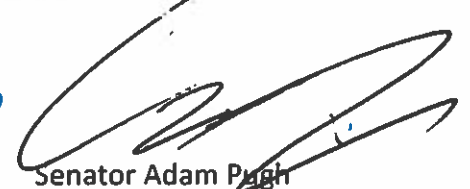
  
Senator John Michael Montgomery

  
Senator Casey Murdock

  
Senator Lonnie Paxton

  
Senator Roland Pederson

  
Senator Dewayne Pemberton

  
Senator Adam Pugh

Senator Dave Rader

Senator Cody Rogers

Senator Paul Rosino

Senator Frank Simpson

Senator Rob Standridge

Senator Brenda Stanley

Senator Blake Stephens

Senator Zack Taylor

Senator Roger Thompson

Senator Darrell Weaver

Senator George Young