

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF PENNSYLVANIA

226 Forster Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102-3220 ◊◊ 717.234.1576

March 20, 2017

The Honorable Leslie Richards
Acting Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Secretary Richards:

The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania is a nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to supporting informed and active civic participation in government by all Pennsylvanians. On behalf of our over 1800 members in 23 counties, we strongly urge you to support an increase in service on the Amtrak Pennsylvanian route between Harrisburg and Pittsburgh.

The League promotes energy-efficient and environmentally sound transportation systems that afford access to housing and jobs, relieve congestion and enhance the quality of life in communities of all sizes. Increasing the availability of rail service between Pittsburgh and Harrisburg will work to relieve congestion by providing additional options for travel and removing the necessity of driving between the two cities. Additionally, by removing cars off the road, increasing rail service will have a positive impact on air quality.

Increased Amtrak service availability between Harrisburg and Pittsburgh will also promote intrastate tourism, particularly because rail travel is increasingly popular among millennials, senior citizens, and international tourists. The train route between Harrisburg and Pittsburgh is also strikingly beautiful and is a tourist attraction in itself. Providing additional opportunities for travelers to experience the beauty of Pennsylvania is important.

Thank you for your attention to this issue. If you would like to discuss further, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Susan Carty President

League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania

Susan Carty