

John Joyce, M.D.
13th District of Pennsylvania



Committee on Energy & Commerce

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for Amtran Bus Replacement in surface transportation reauthorization legislation. The project sponsor for this project is the Altoona Metro Transit (Amtran) and the project is located at 3301 Fifth Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16602.

The funding is designated for the purchase and replacement of three Amtran buses that will have reached the end of their useful life. The three new 12-year, heavy-duty transit buses will have a unit cost of \$600,000 for a total project cost of \$1.8 million which will be split 50/50 between Federal and state funds.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits in the community. Amtran's ridership last year was 459,627. That's nearly half a million trips getting area residents safely to work, to the grocery store, and to the doctor's office. In addition, Amtran helps people with disabilities maintain their independence. Amtran's services also help senior citizens age in place instead of moving out of their homes. Amtran is also critical in helping Penn State-Altoona students get to class so that they can avoid the added expense of owning a car. From a money-saving point of view, timely bus replacement significantly reduces operating costs in both fuel usage and maintenance. These new bus purchases will help these important services continue.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Joyce".

John Joyce, M.D.
Member of Congress