

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 20, 1985

Graham Claytor, Jr. Chairman  
National Railroad Passenger Corporation  
400 North Capitol Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Claytor:

We want to convey to you our concern over what appears to be a policy that in effect fails to utilize the potential of both the public and private sectors. The Twentieth Century Railroad Club, 509 West Roosevelt Road, Chicago, Illinois has, since 1970, planned and packaged chartered tours by way of AMTRAK to various cities throughout the upper Midwest.

What we are most concerned about is the lack of an appropriate equipment leasing program, i.e. a comprehensive, coherent and uniform policy.

Regretfully, in the absence of a policy of cooperation between the public sector (AMTRAK) and the Railroad Club, potential benefits are lost to both. A third but nevertheless major interest is that of tourism and the heightened economic benefits accruing to the communities affected.

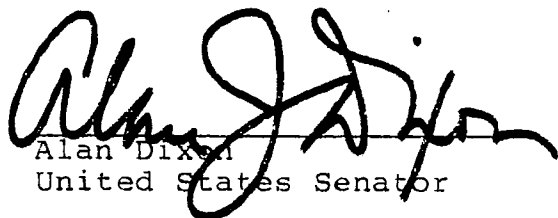
By adopting a mutually satisfactory policy regarding charter-lease activities all parties will profit both literally and figuratively. Unutilized equipment will generate revenues, companies such as the 20th Century Club will be able to broaden their customer appeal and tourism, with its attendant economic benefits to the localities served, will be stimulated.

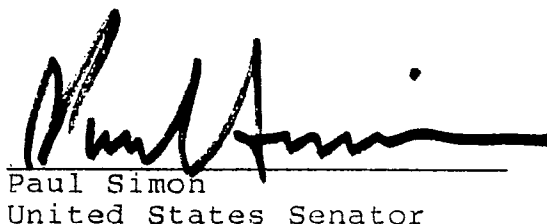
An obvious ancillary benefit would be that by actively supporting the efforts of groups such as the 20th Century Club future ridership would improve. Many, if not a majority of Americans, have never ridden on a passenger train! 20th Century's efforts can only contribute to increased AMTRAK utilization by attracting ridership through its creative railroad related activities.

To impede the potential inherent in what 20th Century seeks by the absence of a rationalized leasing program is counter-productive to all interests.

We strongly request that you review the leasing program and enter into discussions at the policy making level with 20th Century aimed at concluding, as early as possible, mutually satisfactory leasing guidelines.

Cordially,

  
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Alan Dixon  
United States Senator

  
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Paul Simon  
United States Senator

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Bill Lipinski  
Member of Congress

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Cardiss Collins  
Member of Congress

  
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Dan Rostenkowski  
Member of Congress

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Edward R. Madigan  
Member of Congress

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Lynn Martin  
Member of Congress

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Lane Evans  
Member of Congress

  
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Robert H. Michel  
Member of Congress

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Kenneth J. Gray  
Member of Congress