

RESOLUTION OPPOSING REDUCTION IN AMTRAK SERVICE
ON MOST ROUTES IN THE NATIONAL SYSTEM TO TRI-WEEKLY

WHEREAS, Amtrak has announced that on October 1, 2020, it plans to eliminate 20% of its workforce and reduce almost all national network trains to tri-weekly, a cut of over half the frequencies of the national railway system and an elimination of one in five employees; and,

WHEREAS, the CARES Act provided Amtrak with \$1.02 billion to alleviate the severe economic impact COVID-19 produced, and Congress provided record levels of taxpayer funding, yet, Amtrak nevertheless proposes to cut service and staff during an unprecedented time of difficulty for the American people, while dramatically reducing the utility of the nation's passenger rail network; and,

WHEREAS, Amtrak has cut frequencies before in a misguided effort to save money, and the result has always been lower ridership and increased cost spread over a lower ridership base, and the proposed savings of \$149 million are dubious in view of due to the lower readership caused by these reductions; and,

WHEREAS, while Amtrak claims that service could be restored, but that claim is speculative because it will be difficult to do so with the employee reductions and the loss of dispatching slots on the freight railroads: and,

WHEREAS, America is already recovering from the pandemic, and it is premature to make draconian cuts when the extent of the damage from the pandemic cannot be accurately predicted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the All Aboard Arizona Board of Directors, met at Casa Grande, Arizona on June 20, 2020, that All Aboard Arizona opposes the above referenced cuts in Amtrak national train service from daily to tri-weekly; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be provided to all of Arizona's congressional representatives and senators.

Dated the 20th day of June 2020.

Todd Liebman, President

Roger Clark, Vice President

Ken Karrels, Vice President - South Director

Jake Jacobson, Director

John James, Director

Alan Mott, Director

Charles Mott, Past President and Director

Anthony Trifiletti, Director

Earl VanSwearingen, Director

Jay Smyth, Parliamentarian