

Mainiero, Phil

From: BrdBurgess@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 05, 2017 6:16 PM
To: tratestimony
Cc: Sen. Formica, Paul; repdevincarney@gmail.com; breemsnyder@oldlyme-ct.gov
Subject: Support for CT Legislature Bills to Protect the FRA from Deleterious Actions

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We have been following this of what appears to be a total waste of tax payers money and an act of sheer folly by the FRA – NEC Dreamers.

The obvious destruction of beautiful communities and the current fear that manifests itself in reduced real estate sales and values is for “What Gain”?

The “Gain” appears to be a few minutes less time for NYC to Boston commuters. Look at the ridiculously self-serving testimony of some that seek to save 20 - 45 minutes in their commute as the country is asked to mortgage our kid’s futures.

If our State is going to get behind spending big \$\$ on transportation then look at the “Carnage” that occurs on Interstate 95 each week. A faster FRA-NEC is a fools folly to think that ruining towns is going increase the ridership to make a difference on Interstae 95.

Repair and maintain what we have on the shoreline for rail service and investigate FUTURE high speed service on a more direct rail path between NYC and Boston. The shoreline line will never have a real bullet train no matter how many \$\$ and destruction of communities is envisioned

I bike the Airline RR Trail- fairly straight between Middletown and Willimantic. I am sure some of the other options the FRA-NEC are considering thru Hartford or Springfield have benefits of RR easements.

We fully support the following Bills being presented by Sen. Formica and Rep. Carney

i APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO RAIL SERVICE

Many of our constituents felt that their concerns were not properly considered and that the FRA was trying to ram this bypass proposal through without a proper public hearing from those most affected by it. We agree. So, we drafted this proposal which would require municipal approval, through referendum, for any changes to commuter rail service through an impacted community.

SB 263 AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO RAIL SERVICE

This bill pairs with SB 253 in that it prohibits the state from expending funds on rail projects that did not receive municipal approval through a referendum.