

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
July 30, 2026
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Public Record



9838 Old Baymeadows Road #217 Jacksonville, Florida 32256

Senator Ashley Moody
SR-387 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20002

Re: Surface Transportation Board Finance Docket #36873 and Taxpayer
Financed Railroad Projects Left Behind.

Dear Senator Moody:

I'm writing to you on this date to express a concern about the above described Finance Docket that is before the Surface Transportation Board.

I'm a pro se interested person in state, federal railroad matters and I've been following this finance docket since the day it was filed. As you likely know this is a significant, life changing railroad merger that going forward will define the very meaning of railroad-based commerce and commercial activity.

In the interests of time I'm stating my concern and reason(s) for contacting your office on this date and this is:

If this merger proceeds railroad projects that have been, and are being financed with taxpayer used capital will be neglected if not left behind.

Capitalism is all about competition, it's all about innovation and the most competitive companies and concepts advance in the marketplace and others fall behind. The model T Ford has been replaced by the Tesla models. Same argument for the railroad industry.

But the difference is community. As you know communities across Florida have invested in Florida to facilitate the use of rail to allow for local economic development and the creation and retention of employment.

Recently, I was driving across the Dames Point Bridge in Jacksonville, Florida and am now seeing the vacant intermodal terminal including the rail adjacent to the interstate. No activity.

The first thoughts on my mind: changes in the marketplace in Florida.

I think the capital investment in rail and intermodal based infrastructure is a quality investment. Whether this is in Jacksonville, Miami, Tampa or Lake City. Infrastructure defines commerce and commerce creates the market.

This is why I'm requesting your involvement in this important finance docket before the STB. There is a lot of information, speculation and ideas associated with this finance docket. I'm looking at the prospect of vacant and empty intermodal terminals and questioning where this is all leading.

/S/ Steven Connolly.

cc. Parties of Record.

Certification.