

**MIKE CRAPO**  
U.S. SENATOR  
IDAHO

CO-CHAIRMAN, SENATE RENEWABLES AND  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY CAUCUS

CO-CHAIRMAN, WESTERN WATER CAUCUS

CO-CHAIRMAN, SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS

CO-CHAIRMAN, COPD CAUCUS

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE

BANKING, HOUSING, AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

BUDGET

INDIAN AFFAIRS

May 8, 2009

Joseph H. Boardman  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Amtrak  
60 Massachusetts Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 20002

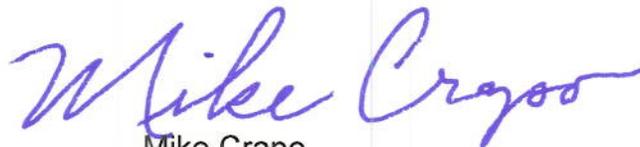
Dear Mr. Boardman:

I would like to invite you to visit Idaho in the near future, and learn firsthand of the opportunities that exist in Idaho and other western states to reinstate the Pioneer Route.

As you know, the Pioneer Route provided passenger service through the western states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming. Since the Pioneer Route was discontinued in 1997, those communities have been without Amtrak passenger service. For many families and individuals this route represented the only major intercity transportation link to the rest of the country.

I appreciate the updates your staff has provided on how Amtrak is proceeding on this study. There is significant interest in reinstating the Pioneer Route in Idaho and returning this economic and transportation network to communities and neighborhoods. Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Mike Crapo  
United States Senator