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NEW JERSEY

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November 7, 2007

The Honorable Anthony R. Coscia, Chairman
Board of Commissioners
Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
225 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10003

Dear Chairman Coscia:

I write today to urge you to not raise fares on the Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corporation (PATH) train system. We face unprecedented oil prices, global warming, increasing traffic congestion, and some of the worst commutes in the nation. Now is the time to encourage people to take the train and a price hike sends the wrong message.

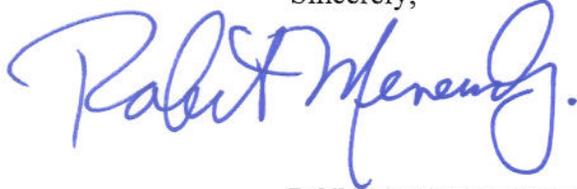
Congestion costs New Jersey tens of billions of dollars annually, and the 227,000 people who take PATH trains every day help everyone by leaving their cars at home. Increasing fares will discourage ridership, hurt PATH revenue, and add more cars to already strained roads.

In addition, our poorest citizens, who are already reeling from rising heating and electrical prices, cannot afford to be deprived of essential public transportation. For many of the people who rely on PATH trains as the primary link between Manhattan and neighboring New Jersey urban communities, a car is not an option. Raising fares now, after recent New Jersey Transit increases and proposed Metropolitan Transit Authority hikes hits vulnerable commuters with a double or triple blow.

The goal of the PATH train system should be to increase revenue by serving more people. You have made impressive gains in the past few years by adding more riders and by spurring economic activity. The PATH system is an essential transportation network for our region and an engine for economic growth which must not be slowed.

As oil heads for \$100 a barrel, the last thing we should do is raise fares and discourage ridership. Raising capital through increased fares is both inequitable and shortsighted. I urge you to reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,



ROBERT MENENDEZ
United States Senator

c: The Honorable Henry R. Silverman, Vice-Chairman
The Honorable Virginia S. Bauer
The Honorable Bruce A. Blakeman
The Honorable Michael J. Chasanoff
The Honorable Christine A. Ferer
The Honorable David S. Mack
The Honorable Raymond M. Pocino
The Honorable Anthony J. Sartor
The Honorable David S. Steiner
Governor Jon S. Corzine
Governor Eliot Spitzer