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THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY



**SENATOR TODD KAMINSKY**  
9<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

**RANKING MINORITY MEMBER**  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

**COMMITTEES:**

ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE  
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VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY &  
MILITARY AFFAIRS

December 13, 2016

Mr. Thomas Prendergast  
MTA New York City Transit  
2 Broadway  
New York, NY 10004

Dear Mr. Prendergast,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Metropolitan Transit Authority's ("MTA") proposal to raise fares and tolls. This proposal will affect the millions of New Yorkers who commute daily, specifically the 87 million Long Islanders who ride the Long Island Rail Road ("LIRR").

The MTA's services are vital to residents who rely on them to get to and from work. For our hard working citizens, it is unacceptable that this fare hike has been proposed as a means of maintaining the current system without any guarantee of better or more reliable service. Commuters already pay too much for delays, traffic, cancellations, and standing room only trains. This fare hike would be burdensome to commuters who should not be forced to pay a premium for the same services, especially when existing problems have yet to be resolved.

How can we justify a system in which the service gets worse, but the price goes up? Indeed, Long Island Rail Road commuters experienced more frequent delays in 2015 than in the fifteen years prior and the LIRR's on-time performance percentage has decreased annually since 2013.

I urge you to reject these proposed fare hikes at your Board meeting in January. The financial burden on Long Island commuters is already too high. Another fare hike will only maintain the status quo and put economic strain on the hard working people of New York. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Todd Kaminsky".

Todd Kaminsky  
Senator, 9th District

