



April 1, 2015

Dear Members of the Texas Legislature:

On behalf of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce and our 2,000 business members, I'm writing you today to express support for Texas Central Railway's proposed high-speed rail line from Dallas to Houston.

As you know, the state of Texas is attracting thousands of new residents every day and those new Texans do not bring roads with them. In order to continue to be a model of economic prosperity for the rest of the country, we must provide multi-modal transportation options for our residents and businesses.

Texas Central Railway will complete this rail line with private funds and is publicly committed to not accepting any government grants or operational subsidies. It will also serve two key economic markets in Texas and allow passengers, whether for business or leisure, more options between the two regions.

In order to keep our economic engine running, we are always looking for new jobs. This project is estimated to create 10,000 jobs each year during construction and over 750 jobs for operation and maintenance. Also, high-speed rail from Houston to Dallas would create an estimated economic impact of over \$10 billion during construction and over \$120 million per year during operation.

The Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce believes this project is a win-win for businesses and residents. Therefore, we respectfully ask that you oppose any legislation that could hinder the future of high-speed rail. Thank you for your leadership and service to the great state of Texas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Thornton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Bill Thornton  
President & CEO  
Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce