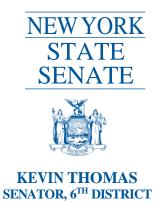
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August 8, 2023

Ms. Catherine Rinaldi Interim President, MTA Long Island Rail Road Jamaica Station Jamaica, NY 11435-4380

Dear Ms. Rinaldi:

I am writing to express my opposition to recent price surges implemented by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) for Long Islanders who commute on the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) daily.

Working-class Long Islanders are rightfully concerned about the negative impacts that rising transportation costs can have on their overall quality of life and opportunities that help make ends meet. On top of these forthcoming increases, the elimination of the LIRR's 20-Trip Ticket option is particularly concerning and harmful to the 14,000 riders who buy into the beneficial program every month.

As a government official dedicated to serving the interests of our community, I find it hard to justify a system in which service gets worse, but prices go up for constituents. It is the responsibility of entities such as the MTA and LIRR to prioritize accessibility and affordability for all residents, regardless of financial standing.

I urge you to reconsider the elimination of the LIRR 20-Trip Ticket, and hope that by considering the broader implications of these price increases, we can work together to ensure affordable public transportation options remain for Nassau County commuters.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kevin Thomas New York State Senator 6th Senate District