

**ALBANY OFFICE**  
ROOM 302  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247  
TEL. (518) 455-3401  
FAX. (518) 426-6914

**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
55 FRONT STREET, ROOM 1  
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK 11570  
TEL. (516) 766-8383  
FAX. (516) 766-8011

**WEBSITE**  
KAMINSKY.NYSENATE.GOV

**E-MAIL**  
KAMINSKY@NYSENATE.GOV

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY



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

**RANKING MINORITY MEMBER**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

**COMMITTEES:**

ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE

CODES

FINANCE

HEALTH

JUDICIARY

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

TRANSPORTATION

VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY &  
MILITARY AFFAIRS

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, INCUBATION AND  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP SELECT COMMITTEE

April 28, 2017

Jeffrey Dinowitz  
Chair, NYS Assembly Corporations, Authorities and Commissions Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Room 423  
Albany, NY 12247

Michael H. Ranzenhofer  
Chair, NYS Senate Corporations, Authorities and Commissions Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Room 609  
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Chairmen Ranzenhofer and Dinowitz,

I am writing to request you hold an emergency, joint hearing regarding the wave of cancellations and delays on the Long Island Railroad ("LIRR"). In light of serious issues surrounding Penn Station – which, as you know, Amtrak controls – and its failing infrastructure, Long Island commuters have faced unprecedented hardship that must be addressed. Amtrak's recent concerning statements about the poor state of its equipment, as well plans to remedy these problems through large-scale track shutdowns that will further impact LIRR riders, have commuters worried that there is no competent body looking out for their welfare. I am getting scores of calls daily from commuters demanding accountability, and it is our job as legislators to get answers.

As you may know, Penn Station-related problems have become so commonplace that a recent *Newsday* cover called it "Pain Station." In light of Amtrak's central role in the recent wave of cancellations and shut downs, it is imperative that they be included at this hearing. Moreover, commuters are also interested in the MTA's plans with respect to Penn Station and Amtrak's control of it, as well as overall operational issues that the LIRR has recently faced.



This is not just a matter of inconvenience; these delays and cancellations severely impact people's lives. Every time trains are delayed or cancelled, commuters miss important work meetings or moments with their families. Legislators must have the opportunity to ask tough questions and hold officials accountable. I strongly urge you to hold a joint emergency hearing as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Kaminsky', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Todd Kaminsky  
Senator, 9th District