

TESTIMONY

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Expanded passenger rail service will triple investment. The financial impact study by the University of Kansas Graduate School of Business Administration projected an economic benefit of \$3.20 for every \$1.00 invested in infrastructure for and operation of passenger rail service that would bring trains up from Oklahoma City to Arkansas City, Wichita, Newton, Emporia, Topeka, Lawrence, and Kansas City.

The Kansas Department of Transportation conducted an economic impact analysis of the expanded passenger rail service. It showed positive numbers on return of investment, short and long-term job growth, and an over all stimulation of the Kansas economy.

The Oklahoma experience is reassuring. Towns along the route averaged four million dollars in expanded economic activity for the first year after the trains arrival.

Amtrak's financial feasibility study projects an annual ridership of 174,000 passengers.

A summary of the facts show this to be a significant economy growth for Kansas with a 3-to-1 return on investment. It's something our state can not afford to miss!!!