

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 25, 2018

Richard Anderson
President and CEO, Amtrak
1 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Anderson,

We write today in great dismay at the news that Aaron Salazar, a Portland State University student, is fighting for his life in a coma, with serious injuries to his brain stem and a broken pelvis.

Aaron is a person of color who also identifies as gay, and his injuries suggest that this incident may have been a hate crime against him during an Amtrak layover in Truckee, California. We understand that the Amtrak Police Department, in coordination with the Truckee Police Department, is conducting an investigation and that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been contacted. We also urge Amtrak to utilize all available resources to promptly investigate this case.

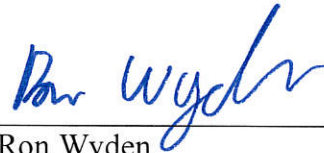
We have seen an increase in hate crimes across the country. The timing of this incident happens just one year after a white supremacist began harassing two women of color on Portland transit. Of the three people who stepped in to intervene, two were killed and one was seriously injured. There are too many stories like these and too many lives lost or injured due to hate crimes in our communities.

We expect a full report on the investigation of this crime, to our federal delegation and to Aaron's family.

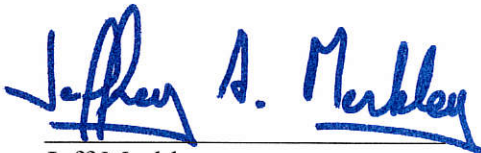
Sincerely,



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Ron Wyden
U.S. Senator



Jeff Merkley
U.S. Senator



Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress

Kurt Schrader

Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici

Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress