



The “*Baby Changing on Board Act of 2024*”

U.S. Senator Peter Welch

Background:

In 2023 alone, Amtrak provided more than [28.6 million](#) passenger trips and operated routes connecting 46 states. These routes are vital to local economies, connecting vibrant small businesses in rural areas to major cities like New York, Chicago, or Vancouver. Traveling by rail also remains an affordable and comfortable mode of travel for many communities, as ridership continues to exceed expectations and Amtrak works to develop more long-duration routes to meet rising demand.

The average duration of a trip on Amtrak’s most traveled route, the Northeast Regional, can last between 3.5 and 8 hours, from D.C. to New York and from D.C. to Boston, respectively. Amtrak’s longest route, connecting Los Angeles to Chicago, can take passengers 65 hours to travel. Parents and families who are traveling often need to change a newborn child’s diaper every two hours, making accessible, safe, and comfortable changing facilities essential.

Legislation:

The *Baby Changing on Board Act* would ensure that these families have access to the facilities they need to travel comfortably by rail. Specifically, this bill would require all trains owned and operated by Amtrak to have a baby changing station in every accessible restroom, codifying voluntary Amtrak policy. This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, of which both Sens. Welch and Blackburn are members.

Endorsing Organizations:

The *Baby Changing on Board Act* is endorsed by A Better Balance and the National Women’s Law Center.

Please reach out to Jeff Van Oot (jeff_vanoot@welch.senate.gov) or Luke Kauth (lukas_kauth@welch.senate.gov) with any questions.