

# Expanding America's Rural Bus Transportation Infrastructure:

*Connecting to the National  
Transportation Network through  
Public-Private Partnerships*

# Why Intercity Bus Service?

- Intercity bus transportation is an important part of the nation's overall surface transportation network and provides critical service for smaller communities and rural areas.
- Intercity bus transportation is often a more affordable travel option than air or rail, when those travel options are available.
- Intercity bus transportation is the sole mode of transportation for 14.4 million Americans<sup>1</sup>.

# Characterizing Private Intercity Fixed Route Carriers

- How many scheduled service companies exist?
  - 100-200 carriers<sup>2</sup>
  - Approximately 70 carriers nationwide are listed in the *Russell's Guide* and 59 carriers belong to the National Bus Traffic Association.
- How many scheduled service stops are served by private carriers?
  - Nearly 3,200 bus stations<sup>1</sup>, serving over 4,200 destination points
- How many rural intercity passengers are served by private carriers ?
  - Able to reach 72.9 million passengers, serving over 31 million in 2001 (as reported by 12 of the 203 identified carriers in 2001)<sup>1</sup>

# Who Do Intercity Buses Carry?

On average...<sup>1</sup>

- Aged 25-44
- 60% female
- 52% minority
- 54% with household incomes less than \$25,000
- 30% in households with no vehicle

# Identifying Private Intercity Scheduled Service Carriers

- Intercity carriers serving rural communities can be identified through several sources.
  - *Russell's Official National Motor Coach Guide*
  - *The Greyhound System Timetable*
  - State regulatory agency listings
  - Trade associations
    - American Bus Association
    - National Bus Traffic Association



# What is NBTA?

- The National Bus Traffic Association
- A non-profit association headquartered in Washington, DC
- Founded in 1933
- Home of the Interline Revenue Clearing House and the Tariff Publisher for the Intercity Bus Industry
- A collection of 59 intercity scheduled service carriers located throughout the United States and Canada



NATIONAL BUS TRAFFIC  
◆ ASSOCIATION INC. ◆

# Interline Revenue Clearing House

- An interline ticket (also known as a thru ticket) allows a passenger to buy a single ticket to travel to a final destination that may require transportation from two or more bus service providers.
- Tickets can be distributed through an Automated Ticketing System
  - Greyhound's TRIPS/MAX system's
  - Gateway/Galaxy system is used by several carriers
- The process used to derive billing carrier's proportionate share of ticket revenue is a function of miles transported to thru trip miles (mileage prorate).





# Payment Through the Interline Revenue Clearing House

- The Association operates the interline revenue clearing house which provides for the monthly settlement of credit and debit accounts electronically.
- Each month the carriers submit billing invoices to reclaim their portions of the thru ticket revenue, in addition to other categories of charges aligned with bus operations, such as: facilities rents, fuel, maintenance, etc.
- Carriers can submit their invoices requesting payment from other carriers online through the Association's website [www.bustraffic.org](http://www.bustraffic.org), as well as view the amounts that they owe.
- Net payments are deposited and credited to the appropriate accounts through an electronic funds transfer.

# www.bustraffic.org

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## National Bus Traffic Association

[Home](#) [Feedback](#) [Members](#)

### Welcome to The National Bus Traffic Association

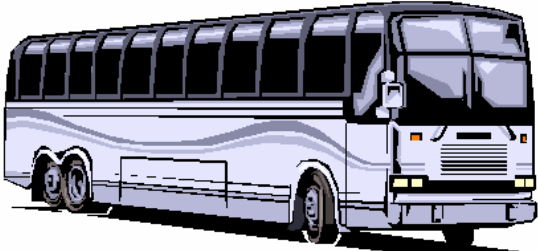
Contact Information

**Telephone**  
(202) 898-2700

**FAX**  
(202) 842-0850

**Postal address**  
1100 New York Ave.,  
N.W. Suite 1050,  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934

**Electronic mail**  
General Information: [ebraendel@buses.org](mailto:ebraendel@buses.org)  
Customer Support: [ebraendel@buses.org](mailto:ebraendel@buses.org)  
Webmaster: [svanz@symmetricolutions.net](mailto:svanz@symmetricolutions.net)



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## National Bus Traffic Association

[Home](#) [Mainpage](#) [Login](#)

**MEMBER DIRECTORY** **Greyhound Lines, Inc.** **USER PAGE**

Current Billing Period:

August

Amount Owed To You:

[VIEW AMOUNT POSTED TO OTHERS](#)

Amount You Owe Others:

[VIEW AMOUNT POSTED TO YOU](#)

[POST INVOICES](#) [VIEW CLEARING REPORT](#) [CHANGE PASSWORD](#)

Done Internet

# Inputting Invoices

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**USER PAGE**

Statement Month/Year

From Company

To Company

Bill Code

Invoice No.

Invoice Date

Invoice Amount

Comment

Insert

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Address <http://216.51.21.199/IrchWebnow/2ndframer.htm>

**National Bus Traffic Association**

Home Mainpage Login

**USER PAGE**

There are 128 total invoices.

Company Code  Invoice No.  Bill Code  Search

Show All Records

Sort List On:  Sort

Back

More

FromCompany	InvNo	InvAmount	BillCode	Comment
386	16496	1445.8	04	
386	16497	86.13	06	
386	16498	248.72	14	
386	16499	249.12	14	
352	3	300	05	test
352	4	400	05	test
352	5	500	05	test
345	000320	1762.4	01	
345	GL1170TKT	144.28	02	
345	GL1172TKT	16.95	02	
345	GL1173TKT	25.12	02	
345	000310	13.17	05	

# Monthly Clearing House Settlements

NATIONAL BUS TRAFFIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

Interline Revenue Clearing House  
1100 New York Ave, NW, Suite 1050  
Washington, DC 20005-3934

## SETTLEMENT SUMMARY

Date: 9/30/98

Statement Period: August, 1998

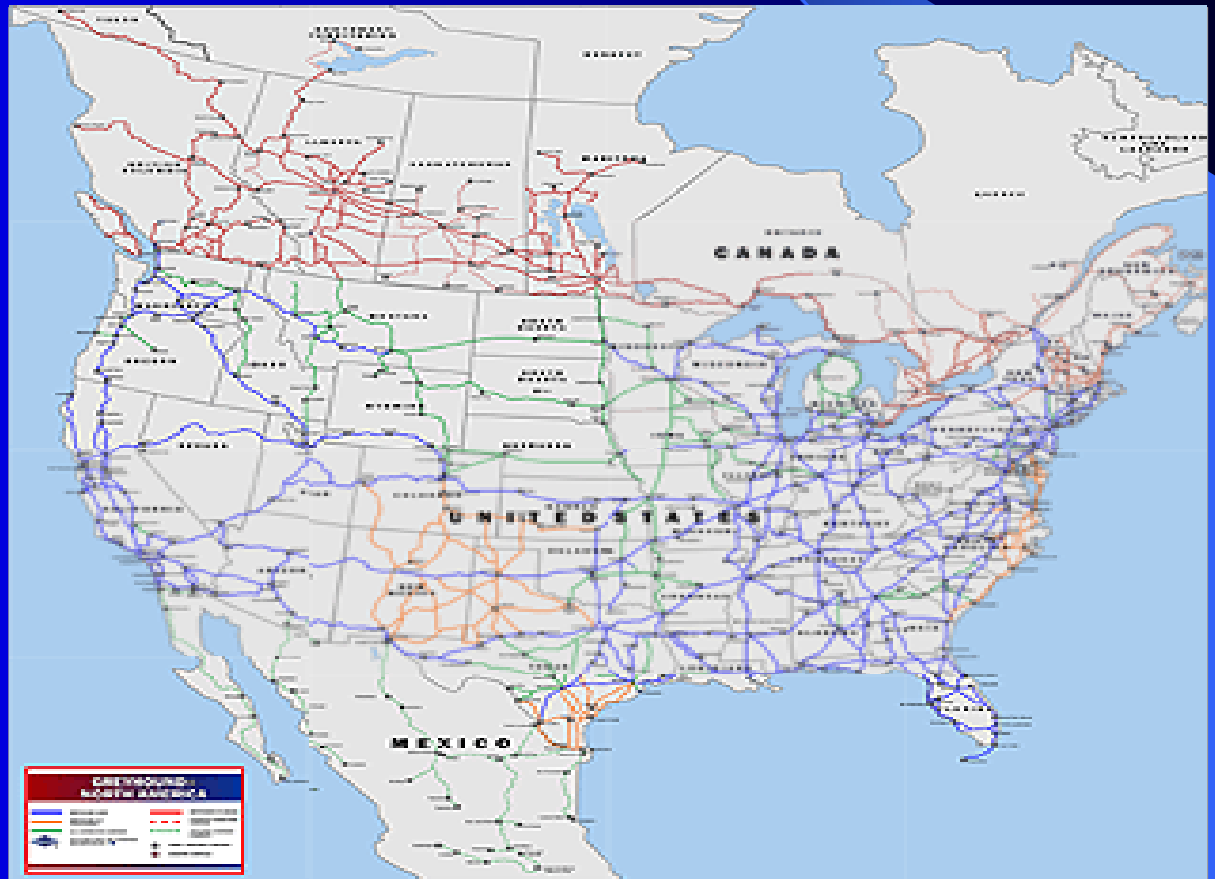
DESCRIPTION:	DEBIT	CREDIT
Due You (Schedule A)	---	\$28,222.47
Due Others (Schedule B)	\$56,623.55	---
<b>NET Due Clearing House - DRAFT DRAWN ON YOU</b>	<b>\$28,401.08</b>	---

### Schedule A: Due You:

Total Billings:	\$28,238.22
IRCH Service Charge:	(\$15.75) For 7 Companies
<b>Net Due:</b>	<b>\$28,222.47</b>

# New NBTA Initiatives

- Interline Arrangements with Sponsored Transit Agencies and Non-Profits
- Interline Arrangements with Sponsored Mexican-based Carriers
- Helping to expand the North American transportation network



# Sponsored Transit Agencies and Non-Profits

- May enter into a sponsorship arrangement with an NBTA member carrier, who will secure a membership application.
- Pay a nominal annual membership fee to the Association.
- Sell tickets to intercity destinations on the sponsoring carrier's ticket stock from destinations originating on the sponsored carrier's operating lines.
- Honor tickets of NBTA member carriers from intercity points of origin terminating on the sponsored carrier's operating lines.
- Sponsoring NBTA member carrier will secure all applicable reclaims.

**Annual dues payment of \$100.00**

# Sponsorship Advantages for Transit Agencies and Non-Profits

- Nationwide visibility and quotation of the services offered by sponsored transit agencies
- Increased ridership
- Convenience of through ticketing for customers
- Expanded access for rural residents to the national transportation network
- A more seamless and coordinated national ground transportation system
- Access to additional funding sources
  - Ticket Sales Commissions
  - 5311
  - 5311 (f)<sup>3</sup>
- Decreased paperwork

# Sponsorship Advantages for NBTA Members

- Increased ridership
- Ability to advertise additional service areas without increasing equipment, infrastructure or operating costs.
- Access to additional funding sources
  - 5311 (f)
  - Local Funds
- Expanded access to intermodal terminals and vehicle maintenance facilities

# Sponsored Mexican Carriers

- May enter into a sponsorship arrangement with an NBTA member carrier, who will secure a membership application.
- Pay a nominal annual membership fee to the Association.
- Sell tickets to intercity destinations on Mexican carrier's ticket stock, replacing the Mexican ticket with the sponsoring carrier's ticket stock at the border before continuing to distant destinations.
- Honor tickets of NBTA member carriers from intercity points of origin terminating on the sponsored carrier's operating lines, exchanging those tickets at the border for the Mexican carrier's ticket stock.
- Sponsoring NBTA member carrier will secure all applicable reclaims.

**Annual dues payment \$1,000.00**

# Sponsorship Advantages for Mexican Carriers

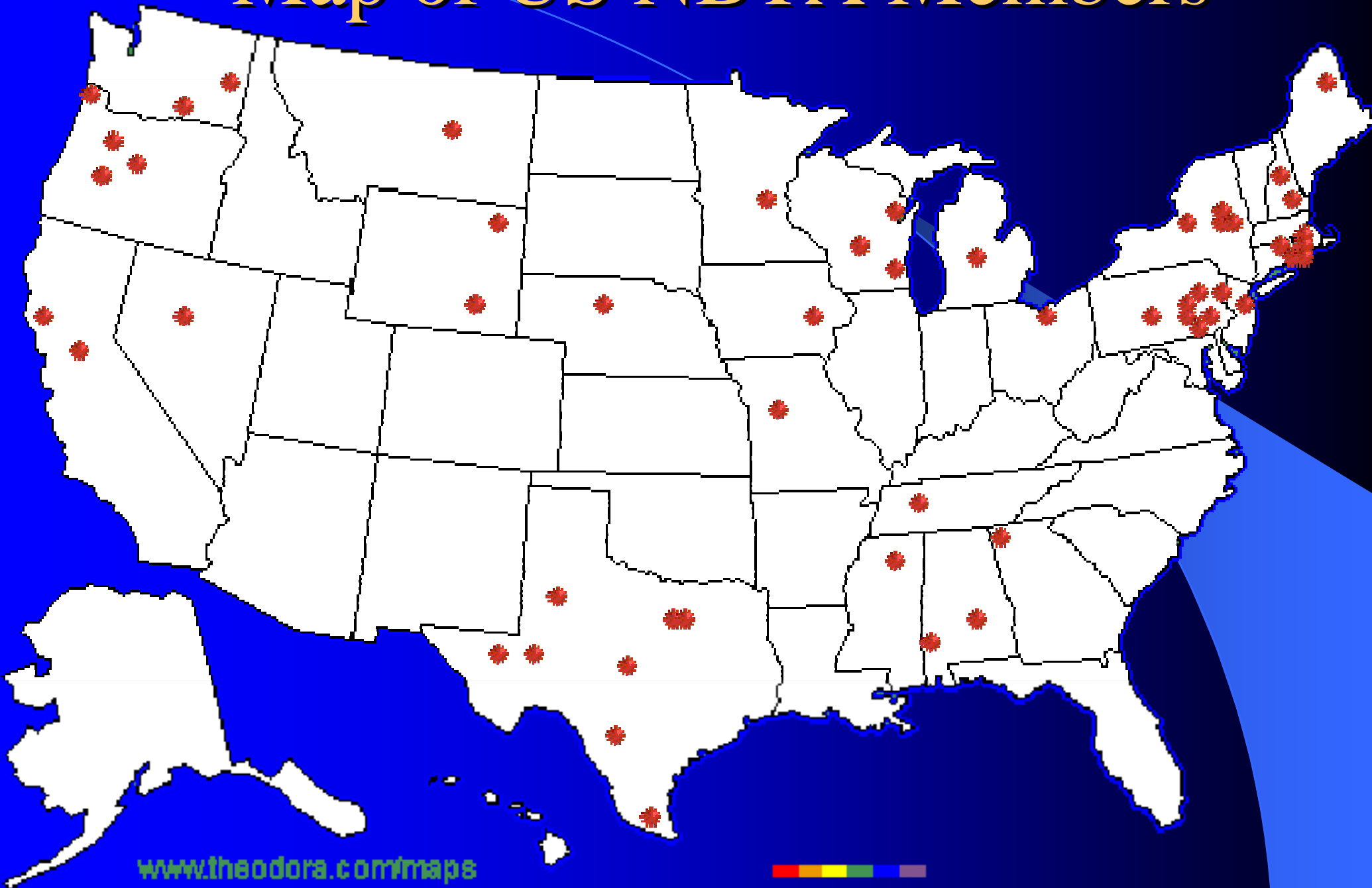
- Increased ridership
- Expanded access for Mexican residents to the US transportation network
- Nationwide visibility and quotation in the United States of the services offered by sponsored Mexican carriers
- Ability to sell thru tickets to US destinations
- Increased revenue due to favorable US exchange rates on tickets originating in the US.



# Sponsorship Advantages for NBTA Members

- Increased ridership
- Expanded access for US residents to the Mexican transportation network.
- Ability to sell thru tickets to Mexican destinations.

# Map of US NBTA Members



[www.theodora.com/maps](http://www.theodora.com/maps)



# US NBTA Members

## Alabama

Capital Trailways/Capital Motor Lines

Colonial Trailways

## California

Orange Belt Stages

Nash Transit/Lee Corno & Co.

## Connecticut

Arrow Line / A Peter Pan Company

DATTCO, Inc.

## Georgia

Southeastern Stages, Inc.

## Iowa

Burlington Trailways/Burlington Stage Lines

# US NBTA Members

## Massachusetts

Peter Pan Bus Lines, Inc.

Plymouth & Brockton Street Railway Company

## Maine

John T. Cyr & Sons

## Michigan

Indian Trails, Inc.

## Minnesota

Jefferson Partners L.P. dba Jefferson Lines

## Missouri

Shumakes Ozark Village

# US NBTA Members

## Mississippi

Delta Bus Lines, Inc.

## Montana

Rimrock Stages dba Rimrock Trailways

## Nebraska

Black Hills Stage Lines

## New Hampshire

Concord Trailways/Concord Coach Lines

C&J Trailways/Jalbert Leasing, Inc.

## New Jersey

New Jersey Transit

Hudson Transit Lines

# US NBTA Members

## Nevada

K-T Services, Inc./A Coach America Co.

## New York

Pine Hill-Kingston Bus Corp.

New York Trailways/Passenger Bus Corporation

Adirondack Transit Lines

Chenango Valley Bus Lines, Inc.

## Ohio

Lakefront Lines

## Oregon

Porter Stage Lines/Porter Enterprises, Inc.

Valley Retriever Buslines

Oregon Coachways, Inc.

The Shuttle, Keno, Oregon

# US NBTA Members

## Pennsylvania

Fullington Trailways/Fullington Auto Bus Co.

Capitol Trailways of PA/Capitol Bus Company

Carl R. Bieber, Inc.

Frank Martz Coach Company/Martz Trailways

Susquehanna Trailways/Susquehanna Transit Co.

Trans-Bridge Lines, Inc.

## Rhode Island

Bonanza Bus Lines / A Peter Pan Company

## Tennessee

Anchor Trailways/Anchor Tours Inc.

# US NBTA Members

## Texas

Kerrville Bus Company/A Coach America Co.

Greyhound Lines, Inc.

All Aboard America!/Industrial Bus Lines

Southwestern Coaches, Inc./Arrow Trailways of Texas

Valley Transit Company

Texas, New Mexico & Oklahoma Coaches, Inc.

Crucero USA LLC

Concho Coaches

## Washington

Northwestern Stage Lines, Inc./Northwestern Trailways

Genie Tours

# US NBTA Members

## Wisconsin

Badger Coaches, Inc.

Lamers Bus Lines/Leisure Way Routes

Wisconsin Coach Lines, Inc. / A Coach America Co.

## Wyoming

Bassett Hound

Powder River Transportation/A Coach America Co.

# Canadian NBTA Members

## Alberta

Grey Goose Bus Lines c/o Greyhound Canada Transportation Corporation

Greyhound Canada Transportation Corporation

Voyageur Corporation c/o Greyhound Canada Transportation Corporation

## Ontario

Trentway-Wagar, Inc. / Coach Canada

## Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Transportation

# Interested in Partnering with Us?

Contact the NBTA Staff today!

National Bus Traffic Association

700 13<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 575

Washington, DC 20005

(800) 283-2877

Peter J. Pantuso, President & CEO

Eric Braendel, CFO

# Sources

1. U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics; *Scheduled Intercity Transportation: Rural Service Areas in the United States*, June 2005. Washington, DC.
2. American Bus Association, R.L. Banks; *2000 Motorcoach Census*, July 2000. Washington, DC.
3. Transportation Research Board, Federal Transit Administration, KFH Group; *TCRP 79-Effective Approaches to Meeting Rural Intercity Bus Transportation Needs*, June 2002. National Academy Press, Washington, DC.

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