

Hy-Line breakdowns hurting workers

To the Editor:

I work on the island every day and I use the Hy-Line departing from Hyannis at 6:10 in the morning. The reason why I am coming to you is to express the dissatisfaction of most of the workers who use this means of transportation.

On Monday we were ready to leave at 6:10 a.m. and were informed by the captain that the boat had engine problems and therefore it would not be possible to continue the trip. Approximately 200 people had to go to the Steamship to try to access the island at 8:15 a.m.

On Wednesday, unfortunately the same problem occurred again, generating a generalized dissatisfaction. Many people cannot access the Steamship. Hundreds of workers are being harmed by the mechanical problems presented by Hy-Line. For more than two weeks we have been using a smaller and very old boat, which contributes to problems like this becoming more frequent.

Why don't they warn us sooner? They sell tickets until the last minute and also parking tickets. When will the big boat return? We spent half the winter using this same small boat. Are they trying to save gas by making us pay the same price? I represent a large group that has been using Hy-Line's services for years. The services are getting more expensive and worse. It gives the impression that we can't trust them.

I know your power of communication and influence in the island community and would like to have our voices heard through you to inquire and question Hy-Line about their plans for the future. Are they going to buy a new boat or are they really going to solve this problem once and for all

With all this happening, hundreds of workers are harmed by reducing their workload and consequently less money for their family income. I thank you for your attention to this matter and look forward to a response from Hy-Line's superiors. This cannot continue to happen.

RAFAEL TRESCHER