

# HOUSE BILL 862

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CF SB 156

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By: **Delegates Stein, Addison, Allen, Behler, Boyce, Ebersole, Foley, Healey, Holmes, Lehman, Lewis, J. Long, Ruth, Solomon, and Ziegler**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

### 2 **Railroads – Required Crew for Movement of Freight**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a railroad train used in connection with the movement of  
4 freight from being operated in the State unless it has a certain number of crew  
5 members; and generally relating to safety requirements for railroads.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
7 Article – Labor and Employment  
8 Section 5.5–101(a), (d), and (e)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2025 Replacement Volume)

11 BY adding to  
12 Article – Labor and Employment  
13 Section 5.5–110(e)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2025 Replacement Volume)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
17 Article – Transportation  
18 Section 21–101(a) and (r)  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
22 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

### 23 **Article – Labor and Employment**

24 5.5–101.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(d) (1) "Railroad" includes each common carrier by rail and all branches, lines, cars, extensions, ferries, plants, spurs, stations, subways, switches, terminal cities, tracks, tunnels, and all equipment used on or in connection with them.

(2) "Railroad" does not include a rapid rail transit system or light rail in operating in the State.

(e) "Railroad company" means:

(1) the operator of a railroad operating in the State; and

(2) the State or any political subdivision of the State, while operating a  
ad.

11 5.5–110.

12 (E) (1) IN THIS SECTION, "RAILROAD TRAIN" HAS THE MEANING STATED  
13 IN § 21-101 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE.

## 1 HOSTILE SERVICE: QB

## 2. UTILITY EMPLOYEES IN YARD SERVICE

1                           **2. IF THE PERSON PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED A WILLFUL**  
2   **VIOLATION WITHIN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING 3 YEARS, A FINE NOT TO EXCEED**  
3   **\$25,000.**

4                           **(II) A RAILROAD COMPANY SHALL BE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE**  
5   **FOR THE ACTIONS OF THE AGENTS OR EMPLOYEES OF THE RAILROAD COMPANY**  
6   **THAT VIOLATE THIS SUBSECTION.**

7                           **Article – Transportation**

8   21–101.

9                           (a) In this title and Title 25 of this article the following words have the meanings  
10 indicated.

11                           (r) “Railroad train” means any locomotive or any other car, rolling stock,  
12 equipment, or other device that, alone or coupled to others, is operated on stationary rails.

13                           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

14                           (a) Section 1 of this Act shall take effect contingent on the enacting of  
15 substantially similar legislation in the State of New York, the Commonwealth of  
16 Pennsylvania, and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

17                           (b) The Maryland Department of Labor shall notify the Department of Legislative  
18 Services within 10 days after the contingency described in subsection (a) of this section is  
19 met.

20                           (c) If the Department of Legislative Services receives notice under subsection (b)  
21 of this section on or before October 1, 2056, Section 1 of this Act shall take effect on the date  
22 notice is received.

23                           (d) If the Department of Legislative Services does not receive notice under  
24 subsection (b) of this section on or before October 1, 2056, Section 1 of this Act, with no  
25 further action required by the General Assembly, shall be null and void.

26                           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to Section 2 of this  
27 Act, this Act shall take effect October 1, 2026.