

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 16-0303R
(Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Henry, Costello, Kraft, Branch, Clarke, President Young,
Councilmembers Middleton, Scott, Mosby, Curran, Holton, Welch, Spector, Reisinger,
Stokes

Introduced and read first time: April 18, 2016

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

Committee Report: Favorable

Adopted: November 14, 2016

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Request for Federal Action – Federal Railroad Administration Crew Size Rule

FOR the purpose of supporting the Federal Railroad Administration’s proposed ruling requiring that trains operated in America be operated by a crew of at least two people.

Recitals

WHEREAS, the safe operation of freight and passenger trains are vital to commerce; and Baltimore City Council supports efforts to keep train operations safe in the city of Baltimore.

WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) regarding adequate staffing on trains, a factor we believe is vital to ensuring safe train operations.

WHEREAS, polling across America from North Dakota to Alabama shows overwhelming bi-partisan support of two-person crews, with 83 to 87 percent of those polled in favor of mandating that trains be operated by a crew of at least two qualified individuals.

WHEREAS, national studies show that a minimum of two on-board crew members are vital to operate a train safely and minimize the likelihood of train-related accidents.

WHEREAS, virtually all trains in North America are already operated by crews of at least two individuals, making the economic impact of this proposed rule minimal.

WHEREAS, the FRA agrees that, while advancements in automated technology such as Positive Train Control (PTC) systems improve railroad safety, they are not a substitute for a train’s on-board crew members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, that the Baltimore City Council supports the Federal Railroad Administration’s proposed ruling requiring that trains operated in America be operated by a crew of at least two people.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken by amendment.

Council Bill 16-0303R

1 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
2 United States Secretary of Transportation, the Administrator of the Federal Railroad
3 Administration, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

4 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That this resolution be filed with the United States
5 Department of Transportation in the form of comments in support of the proposed federal rule.

Baltimore Council AFL-CIO

FAX COVER SHEET

2701 W. Patapsco Avenue, Suite 110
Baltimore, Maryland 21230
Phone 410-242-1300
Fax 410-247-3197

TO:	Federal Railroad Administration
COMPANY:	U.S. Department of Transportation
PHONE:	
FAX:	202-493-2251
DATE:	May 3, 2016
# OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER SHEET	3
FROM:	Ernie Grecco

--

Metropolitan Baltimore Council AFL-CIO Unions



May 3, 2016

RE: Support for FRA Crew Size Rule Making
Federal Railroad Administration
US Department of Transportation
Docket Number FRA-2014-0033
RIN 2130-AC48

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Metropolitan Baltimore Council, AFL-CIO, representing 175 local unions and 150,000 union members in the metro Baltimore area, supports the proposed rules identified above relating to crew size on freight and passenger trains.

Safety dictates that all trains operating in the US should have no less than two-person crews so that train workers and the public are protected.

We urge enactment and enforcement of these rules as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Ernest R. Grecco
President

opeiu2/afl-cio

Resolution in support of Federal Railroad Administration crew size rule

WHEREAS, the safe operation of freight and passenger trains are vital to commerce; and the Metropolitan Baltimore Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO supports efforts to keep train operations safe in the Baltimore Metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) regarding adequate staffing on trains, a factor we believe is vital to ensuring safe train operations; and

WHEREAS, polling across America from North Dakota to Alabama shows overwhelming bi-partisan support of two-person crews, with 83 to 87 percent of those polled in favor of mandating that trains be operated by a crew of at least two qualified individuals; and

WHEREAS, national studies show that a minimum of two on-board crew members are vital to operate a train safely and minimize the likelihood of train-related accidents; and

WHEREAS, virtually all trains in North America are already operated by crews of at least two individuals, making the economic impact of this proposed rule minimal; and

WHEREAS, the FRA agrees that, while advancements in automated technology such as Positive Train Control (PTC) systems improve railroad safety, they are not a substitute for a train's on-board crew members.

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved, that the Metropolitan Baltimore Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO does hereby support the FRA's proposed ruling, requiring that trains operated in America be operated by no less than a two-person crew; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be filed with the United States Department of Transportation in the form of comments in support of the proposed federal rule.



Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

888 16th Street, NW, Suite 520 • Washington, DC 20006 • (202) 974-8150 • Fax (202) 974-8152

An AFL-CIO "Union City"

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20 April 2016

RE:

Federal Railroad Administration
US Department of Transportation
Docket Number FRA-2014-0033
RIN 2130-AC48

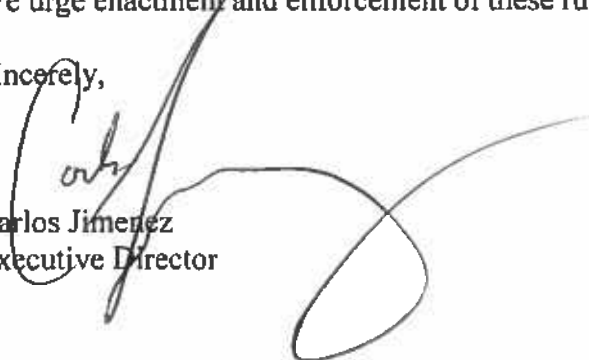
Dear Sir or Madam:

The Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO, representing 175 local unions and 150,000 union members in the metro Washington DC area, supports the proposed rules identified above relating to crew size on freight and passenger trains.

Safety dictates that all trains operating in the US should have no less than two-person crews so that train workers and the public are protected.

We urge enactment and enforcement of these rules as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Carlos Jimenez
Executive Director

BRINGING LABOR TOGETHER SINCE 1896
www.dclabor.org

Resolution in support of Federal Railroad Administration crew size rule

WHEREAS, the safe operation of freight and passenger trains is vital to commerce; and the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO supports efforts to keep train operations safe in the Metropolitan Washington, DC area; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) regarding adequate staffing on trains, a factor we believe is vital to ensuring safe train operations; and

WHEREAS, polling across America from North Dakota to Alabama shows overwhelming bi-partisan support of two-person crews, with 83 to 87 percent of those polled in favor of mandating that trains be operated by a crew of at least two qualified individuals; and

WHEREAS, national studies show that a minimum of two on-board crew members are vital to operate a train safely and minimize the likelihood of train-related accidents; and

WHEREAS, virtually all trains in North America are already operated by crews of at least two individuals, making the economic impact of this proposed rule minimal; and

WHEREAS, the FRA agrees that, while advancements in automated technology such as Positive Train Control (PTC) systems improve railroad safety, they are not a substitute for a train's on-board crew members,

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved, that the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO does hereby support the FRA's proposed ruling, requiring that trains operated in America be operated by no less than a two-person crew; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be filed with the United States Department of Transportation in the form of comments in support of the proposed federal rule.

Dated this 18th day of April, 2016.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

TOM HUCKER
COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT 5

LEAD FOR ENVIRONMENT
TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

May 11, 2016

Docket Management Facility
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
W12-140
Washington, D.C. 20590

Train Crew Staffing, Docket #: FRA-2014-0033

Dear Administrator Feinberg:

Train safety has unfortunately become a top concern for local government officials, with a CSX freight train derailment and hazardous chemical spill in Northeast Washington, D.C. just last weekend and safety issues continuing to plague our Metrorail system. The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has published a notice of proposed rulemaking requiring that trains be operated by no less than a two person crew (FRA Docket # 2014-0033).

The Montgomery County Council strongly supports the FRA's proposed ruling, requiring that trains operated nationwide be operated by no less than a two person crew as the safe operation of freight and passenger trains are vital to commerce. National studies show that a minimum of two on-board crew members are vital to operate a train safely and minimize the likelihood of train-related accidents. Virtually all trains in North America are already operated by crews of at least two individuals, making the economic impact of this proposed rule minimal. Polling across the country shows overwhelming bipartisan support of two person train crews, with 83 to 87 percent of those polled in favor. The FRA agrees that, while advancements in automated technology such as Positive Train Control (PTC) systems improve railroad safety, they are not a substitute for a train's on-board crew members.

For these reasons, we urge you to adopt FRA 2014-33. This letter is filed with the United States Department of Transportation in the form of comments in support of the proposed federal rule.

Sincerely,



Tom Hucker (Dist. 5)



Council President Nancy Floreen (At-Large)



Council Vice-President Roger Berliner (Dist. 1)



Sidney Katz (Dist. 3)



Nancy Navarro (Dist. 4)



Marc Elrich (At-Large)



George Leventhal (At-Large)



Hans Riemer (At-Large)

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2016 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-31-2016
 Proposed by Council Member Harrison
 Introduced by Council Members Harrison, Turner, Davis, Glaros,
 Co-Sponsors Franklin, Taveras, Patterson and Toles
 Date of Introduction May 17, 2016

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Support for Federal Railroad Administration Regulation on Crew Size
 3 For the purpose of supporting and encouraging the rail safety rulemaking proposed by the
 4 Federal Railroad Administration concerning on-board crew size.

5 WHEREAS, the safe operation of freight and passenger trains are vital to commerce; and

6 WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Council supports efforts to keep train operations
 7 safe in Prince George's County; and

8 WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has published a notice of proposed
 9 Rulemaking (NPRM) (49 CFR Part 218; Docket No. FRA-2014-0033; RIN 2130-AC48; Train
 10 Crew Staffing) regarding adequate staffing on trains, a factor that is vital in ensuring safe train
 11 operations; and

12 WHEREAS, polling across America shows overwhelming bi-partisan support for two-
 13 person crews, with 83 to 87 percent of those polled in favor of mandating that trains are operated
 14 by a crew of at least two qualified individuals; and

15 WHEREAS, national studies show that a minimum of two on-board crew members are vital
 16 to operate a train safely and minimize the likelihood of train-related accidents; and

17 WHEREAS, most trains in North America are already operated by crews of at least two
 18 individuals, making the economic impact of this proposed rule minimal; and

19 WHEREAS, the FRA agrees that, while advancements in automated technology such as
 20 Positive Train Control (PTC) systems improve railroad safety, they are not a substitute for a
 21 train's on-board crew members; and

22 WHEREAS, the FRA asserts that this rulemaking will add minimum requirements for the

size of different train crew staffs depending on the type of operation; and

WHEREAS, the FRA asserts that the minimum crew staffing requirements will mitigate the safety risks posed to railroad employees, the general public, and the environment and account for differences in costs; and

WHEREAS, the FRA asserts that this rulemaking will also establish minimum requirements for the roles and responsibilities of the second train crew member on a moving train, and promote safe and effective teamwork; and

WHEREAS, the FRA asserts that this rulemaking will permit a railroad to submit information to FRA and seek approval if it wants to continue an existing operation with a one-person train crew or start up an operation with less than two crew members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that the Prince George's County Council does hereby encourage and support the FRA's proposed Rulemaking (49 CFR Part 218; Docket No. FRA-2014-0033; RIN 2130-AC48; Train Crew Staffing) requiring that trains operated in the United States be operated by no less than a two-person crew; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be filed with the United States Department of Transportation in the form of comments in support of the proposed federal rule.

Adopted this 17th day of May, 2016.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____

Derrick Leon Davis
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council



Prince George's County Council

Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: 5/17/2016

Reference No.: CR-031-2016

Draft No.: 1

Effective Date:

Chapter Number:

Public Hearing Date:

Proposer(s): Harrison

Sponsor(s): Harrison, Turner, Davis, Glaros, Franklin, Taveras, Patterson and Toles

Item Title: A RESOLUTION CONCERNING SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION REGULATION ON CREW SIZE for the purpose of supporting and encouraging the rail safety rulemaking proposed by the Federal Railroad Administration concerning on-board crew size.

Drafter: Leroy D. Maddox, Jr., Legislative Officer

Resource Personnel: Rodney Streeter, Chief of Staff, District 5

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
05/17/2016	County Council	introduced	
	Action Text: This Resolution was introduced by Council Members Harrison, Turner, Davis, Glaros, Franklin, Taveras, Patterson and Toles		
05/17/2016	County Council	rules suspended	
	Action Text: A motion was made by Vice Chair Glaros, seconded by Council Member Turner, that the Council Rules of Procedure be suspended to allow for the immediate adoption of this Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote: Aye: 8 Davis, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Patterson, Taveras, Toles and Turner Absent: 1 Lehman		
05/17/2016	County Council	adopted	
	Action Text: A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Franklin, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote: Aye: 8 Davis, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Patterson, Taveras, Toles and Turner Absent: 1 Lehman		

AFFECTED CODE SECTIONS:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT:

Prince George's County Council supports efforts to keep train operations safe in Prince George's County.

Document(s): R2016031

WESTERN MARYLAND CENTRAL LABOR
COUNCIL, AFL-CIO
152-154 N. MECHANIC STREET
CUMBERLAND, MD 21502
301-777-1820 FAX: 301-777-0121
westmdclc@verizon.net

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: 4-19-16

TO: Docket Manager Jody Oliver
FROM: W.M.D Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO

OF PAGES TO FOLLOW: 2

NOTES:

FAX # 1-902-493-2251



**WESTERN MARYLAND
CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO**

152-154 N. MECHANIC STREET, CUMBERLAND, MD 21502

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westmdclc@verizon.net

**JODY OLIVER
COPE DIRECTOR**

**GEORGE KOONTZ
PRESIDENT**

**LARRY KASECAMP
1ST VICE PRESIDENT**

**CLIFF WENDRICKS
2ND VICE PRESIDENT**

**ANDY WEISENMILLER
RECORDING SECRETARY**

**"BOBBY" ENGELBACH
TREASURER**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS
AL BOSLEY
STEVE GROGG
RON LOHR
IAN REIKIE
BOBBY RICE
RODNEY RICE
SOMMER STARR
BOB SUESSE
SCOTT UPOLE**

April 14, 2016

Dear Sirs:

I believe it is important for labor to get behind an initiative that will provide safety for all railroad workers in Allegany and Garrett Counties in Maryland.

Attached is a copy of a Resolution, in support of the proposed federal rule making process to require a minimum of two (2) qualified persons on freight trains, that was passed by the Executive Board of this Council for your consideration. If you have any comments or questions regarding this issue, please don't hesitate to contact me.

In Solidarity,

George A. Koontz,
President

Resolution in support of Federal Railroad Administration crew size rule

WHEREAS, the safe operation of freight and passenger trains are vital to commerce; and the Western Maryland Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO supports efforts to keep train operations safe in Garrett and Allegany Counties of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) regarding adequate staffing on trains, a factor we believe is vital to ensuring safe train operations; and

WHEREAS, polling across America from North Dakota to Alabama shows overwhelming bi-partisan support of two-person crews, with 83 to 87 percent of those polled in favor of mandating that trains be operated by a crew of at least two qualified individuals; and

WHEREAS, national studies show that a minimum of two on-board crew members are vital to operate a train safely and minimize the likelihood of train-related accidents; and

WHEREAS, virtually all trains in North America are already operated by crews of at least two individuals, making the economic impact of this proposed rule minimal; and

WHEREAS, the FRA agrees that, while advancements in automated technology such as Positive Train Control (PTC) systems improve railroad safety, they are not a substitute for a train's on-board crew members.

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved, that the Western Maryland Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO does hereby support the FRA's proposed ruling, requiring that trains operated in America be operated by no less than a two-person crew; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be filed with the United States Department of Transportation in the form of comments in support of the proposed federal rule.