

Allegheny Valley Railroad Delmarva Central Railroad Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Cliff Grunstra Vice President Sales & Marketing Carload Express, Inc. 101 Delaware Ave Harrington, DE 19952 Phone: 412.780.7767 cliffgrunstra@carloadexpress.com

March 7, 2024

The Honorable Regina T. Boyce 6 Bladen Street House Office Building Room 251 Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: LETTER IN OPPOSITION TO HB1446/SB1060

Dear Vice Chairman Boyce and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

For the record I am Cliff Grunstra from Carload Express, Inc and I am writing to oppose HB1446/SB1060. As one of Maryland's Shortlines, we would be greatly impacted by many of the previsions outlined in the bill.

Carload Express has rail operations in MD, DE, VA and PA. Specific to Maryland, our Delmarva Central Railroad (DCR) serves several large and critical agricultural customers in the agribusiness and poultry industries.

In previous years, crew size bills that have moved through this committee had language to help carve out shortlines. However, the language around crew size in HB1446 is much broader, and does not take into account the differences in operations and staffing capacity between shortlines and much larger Class I railroad companies.

Additionally, some other previsions in the bill such as train length restrictions, blocked crossing limitations and wayside detector requirements will negatively impact our operations as they are onerous and unfairly restrictive.

For these reasons, we ask the committee for an unfavorable report on HB1446/SB1060.

Respectfully,

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