



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 14, 2024

The Honorable Pam Beidle
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: LETTER IN OPPOSITION TO HB1446/SB1060

Dear Chair Beidle and members of the Senate Finance 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 provisions 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 provisions 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,

Cliff Grunstra
Vice President Sales & Marketing
Carload Express, Inc.
412-780-7767
cliffgrunstra@carloadexpress.com