



# METROPOLITAN BALTIMORE COUNCIL AFL-CIO Unions

**HB 862 Railroads - Required Crew for Movement of Freight**  
**House Environment and Transportation Committee**  
**February 26, 2026**  
**Favorable**

To: Chair & members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee

From: Courtney Jenkins, President, Metropolitan Baltimore Council AFL-CIO Unions

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Courtney Jenkins, and I am proud to serve as President of the Metro Baltimore AFL-CIO. I am writing in strong support of HB 862 because safety must always come first for workers and for the public.

Every day, working people rely on transportation systems that must operate safely, predictably, and with proper oversight. When safety standards are weak or enforcement is inconsistent, it is workers on the front lines, and the communities they serve, who bear the risk. Preventable accidents, injuries, and near misses are not acceptable when stronger safeguards can be put in place.

HB 862 represents an important step toward ensuring that safety protections keep pace with real-world conditions. By strengthening standards and accountability, this legislation will help reduce hazards, protect employees from unnecessary risk, and give the public greater confidence that operations are being conducted responsibly.

The Metro Baltimore AFL CIO believes that no one should have to sacrifice their safety to do their job. We urge a favorable report on HB 862.

Respectfully,

Courtney Jenkins  
President, Metro Baltimore AFL-CIO