



# City of Baltimore

City Council  
City Hall, Room 408  
100 North Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

## Legislation Text

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INTRODUCTORY\*

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL R  
(Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmember Henry

### A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

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 bipartisan 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 onboard 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 onboard 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.

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

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.

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