

Submitter: Bradley Todd
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB723

Going on 20 years as a railroad employee, being a conductor this bill makes total sense. Leaving one employee in the cab or on the ground is dangerous. Time saves lives, already in the Portland area we have remote control operators working by themselves. If they were to be critically injured the chance of them surviving are limited. Yes there are safety protocols, but it still involves time. The alert that there is a man down, to the phone call, to the other phone call, to the time to find the employee and the emergency response is lacking. On the main line operations the communication between qualified employees is crucial. Job briefing with each other on slow orders, work zones, speed changes, emergency situations, and trespassers. Two sets of eyes are better than one. Someone there to attend the locomotive radio to transmit information to control operators and emergency personnel, while a employee is on the ground inspecting the train, the rail or looking for a human hit by the train. Better yet, only one qualified employee securing the train carrying toxic or explosive materials, by themselves. I could go on. Technology is great, but it won't save lives of the communities, humans, your loved ones. Please vote yes for lives over dollars. Thank you.