

Submitter: Robert Grow
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB723

Greetings, my name is Robert Grow and I have been with Union Pacific Railroad for almost eleven years (this June). I am in full support of SB723, in regard to maintaining at least a two-man crew on every train; whether on the road, or in the yard. It is simply a matter of safety and common sense. If a train breaks apart on the mainline, who is going to be available with less than a two-man crew, to fix the problem? If a train is going through high traffic areas, particularly in downtown environments, with lots of crossings, how will an engineer be able to see any potential cross-traffic entering the tracks on the conductor's side (if there is no conductor)? If an engineer is all by themselves, and experiences a medical emergency, who will be there to alert the proper resources for help in a timely manner? Even from this cursory sampling of examples it ought to be clear that anything less than a two-man crew presents both the crew and the surrounding public with unnecessary safety issues. In light of this, I urge the committee to support SB723, and ensure the safety of both the railroad crews as well as the greater public at large. Thank you.