

Submitter: Duane Taddei
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB723

Good day, my name is Duane Taddei and I am a 23 year railroader engineer. My route traverses 198 miles of mountain territory. Not only do I need a second crew member to help keep me alert at times especially since I work on call with calling lineups that are often 6 to 12 hours off , I need the conductor to discuss decisions regarding train makeup and train handling in some circumstances. The neighborhoods I operate through also rely on my conductor to respond quickly to incidents that can create serious hazards and blocked crossing situations hampering emergency responders for medical or emergency issues with the railroad, the train or the neighbors property or their medical needs. Also, due to our remote operation location, we rely on each other for our own personal safety especially if we suffer a medical emergency while operating. The carriers idea that the train will stop itself if the need arises is ridiculous. Stopping the train isn't necessarily the issue, it's keeping it stopped on a 2% grade that presents a problem, especially if it takes any time to get responders out to the remote location which at times of the year, can take hours. Thank you for your time.

Duane Taddei
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