

House Resolution No. 6057

By Representative Burroughs

3-24

1 A RESOLUTION supporting the Federal Railroad Administration's
2 proposed rule, requiring that trains operated in America be operated by
3 no smaller than a two-person crew.
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5 WHEREAS, The safe operation of freight and passenger trains is vital
6 to commerce, and Kansas supports efforts to keep train operations safe in
7 our state; and

8 WHEREAS, The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has
9 published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) regarding adequate
10 staffing on trains, a factor believed to be vital to ensuring safe train
11 operations; and

12 WHEREAS, Polling across America from North Dakota to Alabama
13 shows overwhelming bi-partisan support of two-person crews, with 83 to
14 87 percent of those polled in favor of mandating that trains be operated
15 by a crew of at least two qualified individuals; and

16 WHEREAS, National studies show that a minimum of two on-board
17 crew members is vital to operating trains safely and minimizing the
18 likelihood of train-related accidents; and

19 WHEREAS, Virtually all trains in North America are already operated
20 by crews of at least two individuals, making the economic impact of this
21 proposed rule minimal; and

22 WHEREAS, The FRA agrees that, while advancements in automated
23 technology, such as Positive Train Control (PTC) systems, improve
24 railroad safety, they are not a substitute for a train's on-board crew
25 members: Now, therefore,

26 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:*
27 That we support the FRA's proposed rule, requiring that trains operated in
28 America be operated by no smaller than a two-person crew; and

29 *Be it further resolved:* That the Chief Clerk of the House of
30 Representatives shall cause this resolution to be filed with the United
31 States Department of Transportation in the form of comments in support
32 of the proposed rule.