
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 157 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY M. BROWN, CONKLIN AND KAUFFMAN, JUNE 21, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION, TECHNOLOGY AND
UTILITIES, JUNE 21, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the President of the United States to take clear action
2 in preventing future railroad disasters by strengthening
3 Federal oversight and adjusting regulations to increase
4 safety.

5 WHEREAS, Freight trains are an essential component of the
6 transportation system in the United States; and

7 WHEREAS, Despite the importance of freight trains,
8 derailments pose significant safety risks to the public; and

9 WHEREAS, The Norfolk Southern derailment in East Palestine,
10 Ohio, highlighted many known deficiencies in safety practices in
11 the freight rail industry and the transportation of hazardous
12 materials by rail; and

13 WHEREAS, Trains operated by Norfolk Southern continue to
14 derail in Pennsylvania, the most recent accident occurring in
15 New Castle, Pennsylvania; and

16 WHEREAS, The United States Senate has yet to pass the Railway
17 Safety Act of 2023; and

18 WHEREAS, The current regulations governing freight train
19 safety are outdated and have not kept pace with technological

1 advancements and changing industry standards; therefore be it
2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
3 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the President of the United
4 States and his administration to take immediate action to reform
5 freight train safety regulations to better protect the public
6 and the environment; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
8 the President of the United States, the United States Secretary
9 of Transportation, the Administrator of the Federal Railroad
10 Administration, the chair and ranking member of the United
11 States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation,
12 the chair and ranking member of the United States House
13 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, each member of
14 Congress from Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Secretary of
15 Transportation and the Governor of Pennsylvania.