

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4370

To require railroad carriers to prepare and maintain a plan for notifying local emergency responders before transporting hazardous materials through their jurisdictions.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 16, 2009

Mr. GONZALEZ (for himself and Ms. NORTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To require railroad carriers to prepare and maintain a plan for notifying local emergency responders before transporting hazardous materials through their jurisdictions.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Safe Transportation
5 of Hazardous Materials Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.**

7 Every railroad carrier engaged in the transportation
8 of hazardous materials shall transmit to the Secretary of
9 Transportation, and annually update, a plan for providing

1 at least 48 hours notification to local emergency respond-
2 ers before transporting hazardous materials through their
3 jurisdictions within 48 hours of a request for such infor-
4 mation from those local emergency responders. This plan
5 may include notification by means of county or State gov-
6 ernment agencies.

7 **SEC. 3. DEMONSTRATION.**

8 The Secretary of Transportation shall establish a re-
9 quirement that railroad carriers periodically demonstrate
10 to the Secretary that the procedures set forth in the plan
11 transmitted under section 2 are adequate to provide ap-
12 propriate notice to those local emergency responders if
13 they request this information as described in section 2.

14 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

15 For purposes of this Act—

16 (1) the term “hazardous materials” means ma-
17 terials designated under section 5103(a) of title 49,
18 United States Code; and

19 (2) the term “emergency responder” means
20 State and local emergency preparedness personnel
21 described in section 613(a) of the Robert T. Stafford
22 Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42
23 U.S.C. 5196b(a)).

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