

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3896

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide that only citizens or nationals of the United States may operate trains within the United States that originate in Mexico.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2019

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

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide that only citizens or nationals of the United States may operate trains within the United States that originate in Mexico.

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 “Protection of American
5 Jobs in Cross-Border Rail Operations With Mexico Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The country of Mexico prohibits Americans
2 from serving as crews on railroad trains in Mexico.

3 (2) The rail safety laws and regulations of Mex-
4 ico, and the requirements for certification of Mexi-
5 can railroad operating crews, are far less stringent
6 than those of the United States.

7 (3) A reciprocal restriction on Mexican nation-
8 als crewing trains in the United States will protect
9 the work and jobs of American rail workers, protect
10 the safety of Americans living and working in prox-
11 imity to railroad tracks in the United States that
12 are used for cross-border rail operations with Mex-
13 ico, and promote otherwise fair and equitable labor
14 conditions.

15 **SEC. 3. CREW REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAINS ORIGINATING**
16 **IN MEXICO.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 201 of
18 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
19 end the following:

20 **“§ 20169. Crew requirements for trains originating in**
21 **Mexico**

22 “Trains originating in Mexico may only be operated
23 in the United States by crews comprised entirely of citi-
24 zens or nationals of the United States.”.

1 (b) REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—Not later than 180
2 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
3 of Transportation shall issue such regulations as are nec-
4 essary to carry out the amendments made by this Act.

5 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
6 tions for subchapter II of chapter 201 of title 49, United
7 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing:

“20169. Crew requirements for trains originating in Mexico.”.

