

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1979

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for the minimum size of crews of freight trains, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 26, 2019

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KING, Ms. SMITH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. MERKLEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for the minimum size of crews of freight trains, and for other purposes.

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 Freight Act of
5 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. FREIGHT TRAIN CREW SIZE.**

7 (a) AMENDMENT.—Subchapter II of chapter 201 of
8 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
9 end the following:

1 **“§ 20169. Freight train crew size**

2 “Beginning on the date that is 30 days after the date
3 of the enactment of the Safe Freight Act of 2019, no
4 freight train or light engine used in connection with the
5 movement of freight may be operated without a crew con-
6 sisting of at least 2 individuals of whom—

7 “(1) at least 1 crew member is certified under
8 regulations promulgated by the Federal Railroad
9 Administration as a locomotive operator pursuant to
10 section 20135; and

11 “(2) at least 1 other crew member is certified
12 under regulations promulgated by the Federal Rail-
13 road Administration as a conductor pursuant to sec-
14 tion 20163.”.

15 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
16 tions for chapter 201 of title 49, United States Code, is
17 amended by adding at the end the following:

“20169. Freight train crew size.”.

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