

50 F Street, NW Suite 500 Washington, DC 20001 aslrra@aslrra.org www.aslrra.org

Contact: Amy Krouse akrouse@aslrra.org (Cell) 312-371-6947 (Direct) 202-585-3438

ASLRRA Comments On Senate Commerce Committee Action on S576

WASHINGTON, May 10, 2023 – Today, the Senate Commerce Committee voted to advance the Railway Safety Act (<u>S. 576</u>), which will now be considered on the Senate floor. In response to this action, ASLRRA President Chuck Baker made the following statement.

"The ASLRRA and its members have worked closely with various stakeholders and members of the Commerce Committee on both sides of the aisle on S.576 as it was modified. The bill as approved in Committee today represents meaningful progress towards recognizing the unique needs of smaller freight railroads across the country and mitigates many of the unintended consequences that we were concerned about," said Chuck Baker, President, ASLRRA.

"However, due to the interconnected nature of the U.S. freight rail system, short lines are still apprehensive that this broad set of proposed new regulations would have repercussions throughout the supply chain, may ensure smaller railroads directly regardless of the legislation's intent, and that funding proposals in the legislation may diminish opportunities for short line safety improvements."

"We pledge to continue working diligently and in good faith with members of Congress, as they have with us, to address all remaining concerns as the bill moves forward."

About ASLRRA - The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) is a non-profit trade association representing the interests of the nation's 603 short line and regional railroads and railroad supply company members in legislative and regulatory matters. Short lines operate 47,500 miles of track in 49 states, or approximately 29% of the national railroad network, touching in origination or termination one out of every five cars moving on the national railroad system, serving customers who otherwise would be cut off from the national railroad network. www.aslrra.org