



American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association

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ASLRRRA Statement on Freight Rail Shipping Fair Market Act

WASHINGTON, August 2, 2022 – ASLRRRA released the following statement in response to today's [introduction of the Freight Rail Shipping Fair Market Act](#) by Chair of the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials Donald M. Payne, Jr. (D-NJ), Chair of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Chair of the House Committee on Agriculture David Scott (D-GA), and Chair of the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture Jim Costa (D-CA). The legislation will reauthorize the Surface Transportation Board (Board).

“On behalf of the country’s 600 Class II and III short line freight railroads, the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRRA) appreciates the intent of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to find ways to improve the movement of freight on the national rail network. The Freight Rail Shipping Fair Market Act contains several studies and initiatives that are welcome and could aid Class II and Class III railroads and the overall freight rail industry. The bill, however, contains a myriad of mandates and dramatic government interventions into the marketplace that would harm the overall strength and viability of the freight rail business over time and disrupt short line railroads’ ability to serve their customers. These provisions would insert aggressive government regulation into the complex, interconnected freight rail network, create an array of unintended consequences, and ultimately do more harm than good. ASLRRRA alerted Congress to our concerns, and provided a detailed review of each provision and suggestions as the bill was being drafted. As released, ASLRRRA cannot support this legislation.”

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About ASLRRRA - The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRRA) 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