

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2024, Legislative Day No. 17

Resolution No. 38-24

Introduced by Ms. Pickard, Ms. Rodvien, Ms. Hummer, and Mr. Smith

By the County Council, September 16, 2024

1 RESOLUTION supporting the passage and enrollment of the Maryland Railway Safety  
2 Act

3  
4 WHEREAS, the safe operation of freight and passenger trains are vital to  
5 commerce; and Anne Arundel County Council supports efforts to keep train  
6 operations safe in the county of Anne Arundel and throughout the State; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, in recent years, several catastrophic train wrecks have occurred across  
9 the country wreaking havoc on the communities in which they operated. Many of  
10 those involving hazardous materials; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, according to the Federal Railroad Administration's statistics, there  
13 have been over 2,000 rail crossing accidents per year over the last decade causing  
14 8,494 injuries and 2,503 deaths; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, the Maryland Railway Safety Act would address many of these unsafe  
17 conditions existing in the railroad industry today and is vital to ensuring safe train  
18 operations; and

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20 WHEREAS, The Maryland Railway Safety Act will prohibit railroads from  
21 blocking road crossings for extended periods of time; and

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23 WHEREAS, the Maryland Railway Safety Act will limit the length of freight and  
24 work trains; and

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26 WHEREAS, the Maryland Railway Safety Act allow designated collective  
27 bargaining representatives to monitor safety practices and operations; and

28  
29 WHEREAS, the Maryland Railway Safety Act will require safe staffing levels for  
30 trains and light engines; and

31  
32 WHEREAS, the Maryland Railway Safety Act will require the certification that  
33 safety wayside detector systems are located and functional on railroad tracks; and

34  
35 WHEREAS, the Maryland Railway Safety Act will require a reporting system for  
36 transportation of hazardous materials or waste accessible only to the Federal  
37 Emergency Management Agency, the State's Emergency Management Agency,  
38 and County and City Emergency Management Agencies; now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, that it supports*  
2 *the passage and enrollment of the Maryland Railway Safety Act; and be it further*

3  
4        *Resolved, that a copy of this Resolution be sent to County Executive Steuart Pittman,*  
5 *Maryland Governor Wes Moore, Maryland Senate President Bill Ferguson, Maryland*  
6 *House Speaker Adrienne A. Jones, Anne Arundel Delegation Senate Chair Dawn D. Gile,*  
7 *and Anne Arundel Delegation House Chair Heather A. Bagnall.*

READ AND PASSED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024.

By Order:



Kaley Schultze  
Administrative Officer

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT RESOLUTION NO. 38-24 IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND DULY  
ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.



Allison Pickard  
Chair