

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, Trains operating on a railroad track interrupt the flow of ("shunt") an electrical current in the railroad track thereby activating signal devices which alert railroad personnel of the presence of cars on the track; and

WHEREAS, Motorized railroad track equipment and rail mobile vehicles used by Maintenance of Way forces to maintain the railroad tracks are insulated in a manner that prevents them from shunting the current and activating the railroad signal devices; and

WHEREAS, Railroad personnel may not be adequately alerted when Maintenance of Way motorized railroad track equipment occupies the track; and

WHEREAS, There are no current federal regulations that require Maintenance of Way motorized railroad track equipment and rail mobile vehicles to activate the railroad signals which alert railroad personnel of the presence of cars on the track; and

WHEREAS, The United States Secretary of Transportation has the necessary powers to adopt regulations in the area of safety on the railroad; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the State of Maryland requests the United States Secretary of Transportation to adopt the necessary regulations to require Maintenance of Way motorized railroad track equipment and rail mobile vehicles to activate the railroad signals which alert railroad personnel of the presence of cars on the track; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Reference to the Honorable William Donald Schaefer, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the Honorable R. Clayton Mitchell, Speaker of the House of Delegates; the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S. Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Royden P. Dyson, Helen Delich Bentley, Benjamin L. Cardin, C. Thomas McMillen, Steny H. Hoyer, Beverly B. Byron, Kweisi Mfume, and Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; the Honorable Elizabeth Hanford Dole, Secretary of Transportation, Department of Transportation, 400 7th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590; and Domenick DiFalco, Assistant Commissioner of Safety, Railroad Safety and Health, Department of Labor and Industry, 501 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202.

Signed June 2, 1987.