

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF U.S. HOUSE RESOLUTION
1748, THE SAFE FREIGHT ACT OF 2019**

- WHEREAS,** *the safe operation of freight trains is vital to commerce and efforts to keep freight train operations safe is paramount; and*
- WHEREAS,** *trains continue to grow in length, up to two miles long, increasing the likelihood of trains blocking public crossings for longer periods of time; and*
- WHEREAS,** *a minimum of two people is required to separate a train in order to clear a blocked crossing; and*
- WHEREAS,** *a minimum of two on-board crew members is vital to operate a train safely and minimize train-related accidents; and*
- WHEREAS,** *locomotive engineers and conductors each have numerous unique duties, many of which must be carried out simultaneously; and*
- WHEREAS,** *if the engineer should have a critical health issue, another person needs to take control of the train, call for assistance and administer first aid; and*
- WHEREAS,** *virtually all freight trains in the United States are already operated by crews of at least two individuals, making the economic impact of H.R. 1748 minimal; and*
- WHEREAS,** *while advancements in automated technology such as Positive Train Control overlay systems could improve railroad safety, they are not a substitute for on-board crew members; and*
- WHEREAS,** *several states have passed legislation mandating a minimum of two-person crews; and*
- WHEREAS,** *a wide variety of government officials and organizations support two-person crews, including several members of Congress, state legislators, mayors, city councils, the National League of Cities and the Western Organization of Resource Councils; and*
- WHEREAS,** *polling across the United States shows overwhelming bipartisan support of two-person crews, with more than 80% of respondents in favor of mandating freight train crews of at least two qualified individuals.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

that the Salt Lake City Council supports H.R. 1748, the Safe Freight Act of 2019 requiring freight trains in the United States be operated by a crew consisting of at least two individuals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

that a copy of this resolution will be sent to the United States House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman, Peter DeFazio.

*Charlie Luke, Chair
Salt Lake City Council Member, District Six*

*James Rogers, Vice Chair
Salt Lake City Council Member, District One*

Andrew Johnston
Salt Lake City Council Member, District Two

Chris Wharton
Salt Lake City Council Member, District Three

Ana Valdemoros
Salt Lake City Council Member, District Four

Erin Mendenhall
Salt Lake City Council Member, District Five

Amy Fowler
Salt Lake City Council Member, District Seven

Adopted this 8th day of October 2019