

**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.*

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

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

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*Andrew Johnston*  
*Salt Lake City Council Member, District Two*

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*Chris Wharton*  
*Salt Lake City Council Member, District Three*

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*Ana Valdemoros*  
*Salt Lake City Council Member, District Four*

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*Erin Mendenhall*  
*Salt Lake City Council Member, District Five*

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*Amy Fowler*  
*Salt Lake City Council Member, District Seven*

Adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2019