



Blue Earth County Sheriff's Office

Jeff Wersal
Sheriff

Jeremy Brennan
Chief Deputy

February 14, 2023

Senator Scott Dibble
3107 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Frank Hornstein
563 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Dibble and Representative Hornstein,

I am writing this letter in support of SF 1417 and HF 1272 which was introduced during the 93rd Legislative Session addressing the minimum crew size for freight trains operating in Minnesota. I am in full support of requiring a minimum of two crew members aboard Minnesota's freight trains. Two crew members ensure the ability to open blocked railroad crossings or assist any injured people in the event of an emergency such as a derailment or a collision. In addition, having two crew on board ensures all of the duties and extra tasks required to operate a train safely are done so without distraction.

Minnesota's freight trains currently operate with two crew members on board and doing otherwise could jeopardize both the safety of the public and the railroad workers.

Please contact me if you would like to discuss my position on this issue further.

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