



1           WHEREAS, the excessive length and the potential risk of danger of train derailments  
2 requires the careful review and evaluation of all the circumstances that contribute to them  
3 in an effort to ensure the safe operation of longer freight trains on highway railroad  
4 crossings.

5           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
6 urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study the safety,  
7 effects, and impact of longer freight trains.

8           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Department of Transportation and  
9 Development's recommendations shall identify dangers and measures to reduce the impact  
10 of longer freight trains on highway railroad crossings and, at a minimum, shall include the  
11 following considerations:

- 12           (1)    The changes in freight train length over time.
- 13           (2)    The safety considerations for operating longer freight trains.
- 14           (3)    The potential safety risks.
- 15           (4)    The best way to resolve railroad crossing issues.
- 16           (5)    The railroads' financial and operational advantages and disadvantages to  
17                operating longer trains.
- 18           (6)    The findings of the Federal Highway Administration study conducted on  
19                train length safety.
- 20           (7)    The safety implications and difference between trains carrying flammable  
21                hazardous cargo and hazardous freight.
- 22           (8)    The trains traveling within and outside the city limits, including rural and  
23                highway areas, along with areas otherwise densely populated, with and  
24                without hazardous or flammable freight and non-hazardous freight.

25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and  
26 Development shall submit a written report detailing its findings and recommendations to the  
27 House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the Senate  
28 Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works prior to March 1, 2022.

29           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the  
30 Department of Transportation and Development.

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**DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HCR 68 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Pierre

Urges and requests the Dept. of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to study the safety, effects, and impact of longer freight trains. Requires the DOTD to provide a written report of its findings to the House and Senate transportation committees prior to March 1, 2022.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

Expand the Department of Transportation and Development's recommendations to include the following considerations:

- (1) The findings of the Federal Highway Administration study conducted on train length safety.
- (2) The safety implications and difference between trains carrying flammable hazardous cargo and hazardous freight.
- (3) The trains traveling within and outside the city limits, including rural and highway areas, along with areas otherwise densely populated, with and without hazardous or flammable freight and non-hazardous freight.