

MICHIGAN SENATE

Senate Resolution No. 138

Offered by Senators Schmidt, Horn, Hollier, Huizenga, Daley, Bizon, Runestad, Wojno, Alexander, Irwin, McMorrow, Bayer, VanderWall, Polehanki, Nesbitt, Zorn, Moss, Hertel, Brinks, McCann, Outman, Johnson, Bullock, Barrett, McBroom, MacDonald, Wozniak, Stamas, Chang, Victory and Lauwers

A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE MAY 11, 2022, AS MICHIGAN RAIL DAY

WHEREAS, National Rail Day is celebrated in May to commemorate the completion of America's first transcontinental railroad on May 11, 1869; and

WHEREAS, Michigan is fortunate to have 3,465 freight rail miles operated by 29 freight carriers and Amtrak passenger service; and

WHEREAS, Railroads are a safe way to move freight and are working to improve infrastructure and equipment safety, reduce human error, and protect the rail network every day; and

WHEREAS, Technology including smart sensors, big data, and drones are used throughout the nearly 140,000 mile national rail network, while also ensuring infrastructure and equipment safety; and

WHEREAS, Between 2000 and 2021, train accidents were down 33 percent and between 2000 and 2020, the hazmat accident rate was down 60 percent. In 2020, the rail employee injury rate was at an all-time low; and

WHEREAS, Moving freight by rail prevents 6.97 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of planting 105.6 million trees; and

WHEREAS, Railroads help preserve infrastructure and aid in cutting congestion. Freight railroads take 4.7 million truckloads off Michigan roads annually; and

WHEREAS, From the auto industry and other manufacturers to mining and agriculture, Michigan's productive freight rail network provides key connections to keep our state's economy vibrant; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the members of this legislative body recognize May 11, 2022, as Michigan Rail Day; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we recognize and celebrate the pivotal role that a robust freight railroad and passenger system is to the residents of the Great Lakes State.

Adopted by the Senate, May 11, 2022.



Secretary of the Senate