



SR0142

LRB103 31503 MST 59418 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Volumes of crude oil shipments have risen rapidly
3 in the 2010s relative to previous decades; and

4 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)
5 remains committed to transporting flammable liquids by all
6 modes of transportation, including the nation's 140,000-mile
7 freight railroad network that is often located near public
8 areas such as neighborhoods and schools, endangering citizens
9 by placing them unknowingly within blast and evacuations
10 zones; and

11 WHEREAS, The rail transportation of large volumes of crude
12 oil and other petroleum products presents unique safety risks;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Incidents such as the derailment in Lac-Megantic,
15 Quebec, Canada, when a unit train carrying crude oil from the
16 Bakken region of North Dakota killed 47 unsuspecting people
17 and decimated most of the village, have resulted in
18 significant and devastating loss of life and destruction of
19 property and the environment; and

20 WHEREAS, The safe and successful management of any
21 hazardous materials incident is based on effective

1 pre-incident planning, preparedness, training, exercises, and
2 implementation of an incident management system; and

3 WHEREAS, The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety
4 Administration (PHMSA), in consultation with the Federal
5 Railroad Administration (FRA), issued a final rule to improve
6 oil spill response readiness and mitigate effects of rail
7 accidents and incidents involving petroleum oil and
8 high-hazard flammable trains (HHFTs); and

9 WHEREAS, The intent of comprehensive oil spill response
10 plans (COSRPs) requirements is to ensure that local emergency
11 responders and emergency response planning officials have
12 access to sufficient information regarding the movement of
13 HHFTs in their jurisdictions to adequately plan and prepare
14 for emergency events; and

15 WHEREAS, Government concern regarding the dissemination of
16 "sensitive security information" should not surpass a parent's
17 right to information necessary in allowing them to make
18 decisions related to securing the safety of their child or the
19 school faculty and staff's right to safe working conditions;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, In order for school personnel to manage a
22 hazardous materials incident safely and successfully, they too

1 must take part in effective pre-incident planning,
2 preparedness, training, exercises, and implementation of an
3 incident management system; and

4 WHEREAS, Even without derailing, spilling, or exploding,
5 doctors have warned that proximity to oil trains poses a
6 serious health risk with increasing rates in cancer, asthma,
7 and cardiovascular disease through exposure to particulate
8 matter released as emissions from trains; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge local
11 emergency response planning officials to partner with school
12 districts in their region in order to disseminate information
13 pertaining to safety threats related to the storage and
14 transport of hazardous substances, including petroleum oil and
15 HHFTs, to the parents of attending students, faculty and
16 staff, and schools at risk of being negatively impacted by
17 storage facilities and/or the transport of such hazardous
18 materials; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That we urge local emergency response planning
20 officials to include school districts in their region in the
21 development and implementation of oil spill response plans
22 specific to incidents involving the storage and transport of
23 hazardous materials, including petroleum oil and HHFTs; and be

1 it further

2 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
3 delivered to all emergency response planning committees
4 throughout the State.