

## **REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

### **HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** April 17, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Resolution – In Support of Senate Bill 463

**PRESENTER:** Commissioner Charlie Messer

**ATTACHMENTS:** Yes  
1.) Resolution

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

Senate Bill 463, filed on April 2, 2019, deals with the regulation of railroad crews. Specifically, it notes that “no railroad train or light engine used in a Class One railroad, as defined by the Federal Surface Transportation Board, in connection with the movement of freight shall be operated in the State unless the train has a crew of at least two persons”. Rail crews operate throughout Henderson County, and the safety of these crews is of vital interest to the citizens of the county.

The Board is requested to adopt a Resolution in Support of Senate Bill 463.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Board is requested to adopt the attached Resolution as presented.

#### **SUGGESTED MOTION:**

*I move that the Board adopt the attached Resolution in support of Senate Bill 463 – Regulation of Railroad Crews.*

# HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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GRADY H. HAWKINS  
Chairman  
WILLIAM G. LAPSLEY  
Vice-Chairman

CHARLIE D. MESSER  
J. MICHAEL EDNEY  
REBECCA K. MCCALL

## RESOLUTION

### In Support of Senate Bill 463 – Regulation of Railroad Crews

**WHEREAS,** Senate Bill 463 advances the regulation of railroad crews, by specifying that “no railroad train or light engine used in a Class One railroad, as defined by the Federal Surface Transportation Board, in connection with the movement of freight shall be operated in the State unless the train has a crew of at least two persons”; and

**WHEREAS,** engineers and conductors are responsible for a long list of unique duties, most of which must be carried out simultaneously for the train’s safe and efficient operation; and

**WHEREAS,** two-person crews not only help prevent potential accidents or derailments, they also play a critical role in emergency situations; and

**WHEREAS,** having two-person crews is one of the most effective ways to combat fatigue among operating employees; and

**WHEREAS,** while train control technology is an important safety feature, it cannot replace the vital role of a second crew member in freight rail operations;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that we, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners, hereby declare our support for Senate Bill 463, and respectfully request that the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina adopt this Bill into law.

Adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019.

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GRADY H. HAWKINS, CHAIRMAN  
HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

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TERESA L. WILSON, CLERK TO THE BOARD