



April 16, 2023

The Hon. _____
U.S. House of Representatives
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Alex Padilla
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Please join your colleagues on both sides of the aisle in supporting
the Railway Safety Act of 2023!**

Dear Members of Congress,

I am writing to you today to urge your support for the bipartisan Railway Safety Act of 2023.

The recent Norfolk Southern train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio was tragic, but it was no isolated incident. Rather, it underscored the major threats that an unregulated and therefore unsafe railway industry poses to communities and waterways throughout the country. We need to reform these practices before disaster strikes again.

This legislation strengthens safety requirements for all trains carrying hazardous materials, and phases in newer, safer tank cars over the next two years, not over the next decade. It will increase safety by requiring hotbox detectors every 10 miles to prevent derailments like the one that we saw in East Palestine. It increases HAZMAT fees for railroads to pay for grants to train state and local firefighters and other first responders to respond to hazmat incidents. The legislation will also dramatically increase fines for safety violations.

Taxpayers should not be left to clean up corporate messes. Taking action now to prevent future accidents will save money. It will also help protect waterways, ecosystems, and air quality, not to mention the quality of life for countless Americans.

For these reasons, we must immediately address the looming and inevitable threats posed by a dangerously unregulated industry by passing the Railway Safety Act of 2023.

I hope I can count on your support for this urgently needed legislation to better protect people and our rivers, oceans, lakes, and communities from avoidable accidents.

Thank you,
(Print Name) _____

Address _____
