

Submitter:	Joel Bahrenfuss
On Behalf Of:	Oregon Residents
Committee:	Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB723

Hello & thank you for the opportunity to express my concern for SB 723. My name is Joel Bahrenfuss & I am employed by Union Pacific RR as a Locomotive Engineer. My current assignment protects the Portland to Eugene run. I have been with the UPRR since May, 2004. My job description is "the safe operation of trains & engines", a task we perform as a team, along with the Conductor, hence the term, "two man Crew". Before, during & after we perform service, job-briefings, both directly & indirectly, are carried out to assess the goals & potential problems for that train. This knowledge is shared, learned & emphasized between two professionals who want nothing more than a safe & successful run. Not having another highly skilled professional team-member in the cab does not promote safety. It reduces the amount of lived experience, knowledge & perspective of the tasks. No human is infallible. Having a second person in the cab is essential to the safe operations of trains & engines! I would never go surfing alone. Why on earth would I be tasked with 10,000 tons/8500' of train traveling at 50mph alone?

Thank you for your time & contribution to Democracy!!
Joel Bahrenfuss