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On Behalf Of:
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Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB723

In the interest of safety of not only railroad employees and their families, but the general public, the pristine land we traverse and the animals that inhabit the area (some of which are endangered or monuments of our great country) it behooves the state of Oregon to continue with the very minimal count of two employees in the cab of a locomotive.

It is absolutely imperative to have multiple people in the cab to be able to call attention to people, obstructions in the right of way and train make-up. No computer on earth could see or sense the hazards we encounter on a daily basis. It is the eyes and ears of two people working together and looking out for one another that create this harmony.

I could go on about the on call schedule or the ever changing rules that must be followed and read to the engineer by the conductor when encountering situations. I could also talk about the countless near miss situations of people, animals and vehicles that are only near miss because of the fast reactions of both the engineer and conductor working simultaneously to avoid catastrophe. The fact is this is about human life. I truly believe it's priceless and I'm hopeful that this magnificent State of Oregon does too.

We are consumers and can continue to be safely with a two person crew in the cab.

Thank you