

## **SUPPORT FOR HB 1742**

**1. BLET POSITION FOR SUPPORT OF PASSAGE**

**2. PFFFA SUPPORT FOR HB 1742**

**3. CALIFORNIA LAW SB 730. Became law on 2-1-2016.**

**4. TWO PERSON CREW BILL ENACTED IN WV.**

**5. LEGISLATION BEING INTRODUCED IN: OHIO, NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, ILLINOIS, COLORADO AND MASSACHUSETTS BY THE BLET AND SMART-TD AS JOINT LEGISLATION.**

## Two Person Train Crews Necessary for Safety

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers & Trainmen urges you to support, (bill number), legislation mandating two person train crews, which would mandate two persons on every train or light engine used in connection with the movement of freight in the (state).

The legislation reflects heightened concerns over crew size arising from the tragic July 6 derailment of a Montreal, Maine & Atlantic (MM&A) fuel train in Lac Mégantic, Quebec, which killed 47 and destroyed the center of the town, and other incidents of which a single person operation has been found to be wholly or partially the cause.

The BLET has long been concerned that the single-person crewing practice on, mostly, short line railroads places the public safety at risk. Two-person crews are the norm in both the U.S. and Canada, and 99+ percent of America's trains *already* operate with two federally-certified crew members. However, we have seen the tragic consequences of single person operations, and this bill will prevent a handful of rogue operators from endangering their employees and the communities through which they pass.

This legislation will allow for safer operations through our communities by reducing risk that arises from relying on a single individual. While our members are professionals who take pride in our work, by its very nature of railroad operations are enhanced by two people on every crew. This legislation will allow for communication and safety redundancy, operational efficiency and two pairs of eyes and ears on the head end of every freight engine. With single person operations, there is no guard against the potential human error whether that emanates from a crewmember in the field, management decision or remote dispatching office.

The railroad industry has become a safer place to work than ever before, in large part because of the professionals who run the trains in (state) and across America, and we, who run our state's and our nation's trains, believe that the safest way to operate a train is with at least two certified crew members.

The BLET asks for your support and co-sponsorship. Please contact (state chairman contact information) with any questions.

