

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

Jolene Ivey Chair Council District 5 "Serving the People of Prince George's County!"

October 22, 2024

Honorable William Ferguson IV Senate President State House -H107 100 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Honorable Adrienne A. Jones Speaker of the House State House – H -101 100 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Letter of Support for Maryland Railway Safety Act

Dear President Ferguson and Speaker Jones:

The Prince George's County Council strongly supports the passage of the Maryland Railway Safety Act. As our state and county continue to grow, so does the importance of ensuring the safety of our rail systems for passenger and freight trains. Recently, several devasting train accidents have occurred across the country, injuring families and sometimes discharging hazardous materials throughout communities. This legislation is a first step to ensure the safe passage of freight and passenger trains throughout Prince George's County.

The Maryland Railway Safety Act addresses many critical issues throughout the railroad industry, such as enhanced safety protocols, increased staffing for train and light engines, and updated technology systems. Investing in our state railway systems significantly reduces the risk of accidents and improves the overall reliability of rail services.

The Prince George's County Council would like to thank our state leaders for their commitment to improving the lives of all residents in Prince George's County. For the reasons mentioned above, we support the passage of the Maryland Railway Safety Act. We look forward to Maryland being a leader in railway safety.

Regards,

Jolene Ivey, Chairwoman Prince George's County Council

CC: Prince George's County Senate Delegation Members Prince George's County House Delegation Members Prince George's County Council Members