



March 22, 2022

Representative Luke Frederick
487 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Subject: HF 4323 (Frederick) Two-person crew on trains carrying freight required, and penalties prescribed

Dear Representative Frederick,

Thank you for authoring HF 4323, a bill that would require two-person crews on trains in Minnesota that are carrying freight. The League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) supports this legislation, and city officials throughout the state are hopeful it will advance in 2022.

Safety concerns about freight trains have become more pronounced for city leaders and residents as the number and length of trains have increased. A committee of city officials spent considerable time learning about and discussing freight rail safety issues. The committee recommended—and the League’s Board of Directors adopted—policy language stating state law should require every train that is carrying freight to be operated with a crew of at least two crewmembers. The League believes having at least two crewmembers on freight trains is essential to public safety and timely emergency response.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance to you in advancing this legislation. I can be reached at (651)281-1263 or afinn@lmc.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Finn".

Anne Finn
Assistant Intergovernmental Relations Director