

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To review Federal Railroad Administration workforce management and the Office of Personnel Management's Railroad Safety Series, GS-2121, TS-37.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—118th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 576

To enhance safety requirements for trains transporting hazardous materials, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. PETERS

Viz:

1 On page 49, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:
2

3 **SEC. 113. FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION SAFETY**
4 **WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT.**

5 Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment
6 of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of
7 Transportation shall submit a report to the Committee on
8 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
9 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
10 the House of Representatives that contains the results of
11 a review of the Federal Railroad Administration Office of

1 Railroad Safety inspector and specialist staff resource
2 management, including—

3 (1) an assessment of the changes in the number
4 of Federal Railroad Administration safety inspectors
5 and specialists, including—

6 (A) the number of safety inspector and
7 specialist vacancies;

8 (B) the number of such positions requested
9 in each of the budget requests for the last 10
10 fiscal years; and

11 (C) the actual workforce levels during each
12 of such fiscal years;

13 (2) an assessment of geographic allocation
14 plans, potential hiring and time-to-hire challenges,
15 expected retirement rates, and recruitment and re-
16 tention strategies;

17 (3) a description of any internal Federal Rail-
18 road Administration goals for compliance inspection
19 rates across the network of regulated activities, and
20 whether requested and actual safety inspector and
21 specialist workforce levels align with such goals;

22 (4) whether the system used for the notifica-
23 tion, processing, or storing of civil penalty enforce-
24 ment cases and other compliance actions rec-
25 ommended by safety inspectors and specialists

1 against railroads, shippers of hazardous materials,
2 and other respondents effectively supports the Fed-
3 eral Railroad Administration's compliance inspection
4 and enforcement program;

5 (5) whether any macroeconomic or other condi-
6 tions exist or have existed under which it has been
7 difficult for the Federal Railroad Administration to
8 fill safety inspector and specialist vacancies, and the
9 degree to which special rates of pay or other recruit-
10 ment and retention practices could ameliorate or
11 could have ameliorated such difficulty; and

12 (6) recommendations for any reforms that
13 could—

14 (A) improve the recruitment, hiring, and
15 retention of Federal Railroad Administration
16 safety inspectors and specialists, including po-
17 tential quality of life and workplace improve-
18 ments;

19 (B) improve Federal Railroad Administra-
20 tion workforce management processes; or

21 (C) increase the capacity for inspection ac-
22 tivities, if such capacity is identified as defi-
23 cient, at the Federal Railroad Administration,
24 including activities relating to the transpor-
25 tation of hazardous materials.

1 **SEC. 114. OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT REVIEW**
2 **OF SAFETY INSPECTOR AND SPECIALIST**
3 **CLASSIFICATIONS.**

4 (a) REVISING RAILROAD SAFETY SERIES.—Not later
5 than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
6 the Director of the Office of Personnel Management
7 shall—

8 (1) complete a review of the Railroad Safety Se-
9 ries, GS-2121, TS-37; and

10 (2) subject to subsection (b), revise the series
11 referred to in paragraph (1), as appropriate, to re-
12 flect factors impacting the Federal Railroad Admin-
13 istration's oversight of the railroad industry, includ-
14 ing—

15 (A) current critical Federal Railroad Ad-
16 ministration disciplines; and

17 (B) technological advancements and oper-
18 ational conditions within the railroad industry.

19 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after com-
20 pleting the review required under subsection (a), if the Di-
21 rector determines that a revision of the Railroad Safety
22 Series is not appropriate, the Director shall submit a re-
23 port to the Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-
24 mental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Com-
25 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the
26 Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House

1 of Representatives, and the Committee on Transportation
2 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives that—

3 (1) explains the findings of the review required
4 under subsection (a); and

5 (2) justifies the determination not to make revi-
6 sions to the Railroad Safety Series.