



HR1002

LRB098 20849 GRL 58252 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Norfolk Southern Railroad has multiple at-grade crossings on the south side of Centralia, including at-grade crossings at U.S. Route 51 for both northbound and southbound traffic; and

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WHEREAS, When trains block the crossings, the vehicle delays are as long as 40 minutes and have caused problems for emergency responders by delaying and extending their response times; and

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WHEREAS, Delays in providing emergency responders could mean the difference between life and death when an accident or illness occurs; and

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WHEREAS, An agreement should be reached that will eliminate the hazards caused by the at-grade crossings; and

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WHEREAS, It is of critical importance to eliminate the multiple at-grade crossings delays to emergency responders; and

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WHEREAS, Eliminating these delays would improve emergency response times and economic development in the affected areas of the City of Centralia, the City of Wamac, and the Village of

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1 Central City; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we urge the Federal Railroad Administration, the Norfolk
5 Southern Railroad, the Illinois Department of Transportation,
6 the Illinois Commerce Commission, the City of Centralia, the
7 City of Wamac, and the Village of Central City to work together
8 to reach a solution that will eliminate the safety hazards
9 created by the numerous at-grade crossings on the south side of
10 Centralia, including at-grade crossings at U.S. Route 51 for
11 both northbound and southbound traffic; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
13 presented to Joseph C. Szabo, Administrator of the Federal
14 Railroad Administration; James A. Squires, President of the
15 Norfolk Southern Railroad; Ann L. Schneider, Secretary of
16 Transportation; Doug Scott, Chairman of the Illinois Commerce
17 Commission; Tom Ashby, Mayor of the City of Centralia; Jackie
18 "Butch" Mathus, Jr., Mayor of City of Wamac; and Sharon
19 Heitkamp, Mayor of the Village of Central City.