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LRB101 20170 LAW 69709 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Volumes of crude oil shipments have risen rapidly
3 in the 2010s relative to previous decades; and

4 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)
5 remains committed to transporting flammable liquids by all
6 modes of transportation; this includes the nation's
7 140,000-mile freight railroad network that is often located
8 near such public areas as neighborhoods and schools,
9 endangering citizens by placing them unknowingly within blast
10 and evacuations zones; and

11 WHEREAS, The rail transportation of large volumes of crude
12 oil and other petroleum products presents unique safety risks;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Incidents such as the derailment in Lac-Megantic,
15 Quebec, Canada, when a unit train carrying crude oil from the
16 Bakken region of North Dakota killed 47 unsuspecting people and
17 decimated most of the village, have resulted in significant and
18 devastating loss of life and destruction of property and the
19 environment; and

20 WHEREAS, The safe and successful management of any
21 hazardous materials incident is based on effective

1 pre-incident planning, preparedness, training, exercises, and
2 implementation of an incident management system; and

3 WHEREAS, The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety
4 Administration (PHMSA), in consultation with the Federal
5 Railroad Administration (FRA), issued a final rule to improve
6 oil spill response readiness and mitigate effects of rail
7 accidents and incidents involving petroleum oil and
8 high-hazard flammable trains (HHFTs); and

9 WHEREAS, The intent of comprehensive oil spill response
10 plans (COSRPs) requirements is to ensure that local emergency
11 responders and emergency response planning officials have
12 access to sufficient information regarding the movement of
13 HHFTs in their jurisdictions to adequately plan and prepare for
14 emergency events; and

15 WHEREAS, Government concern regarding the dissemination of
16 "sensitive security information" should not surpass a parent's
17 right to information necessary in allowing them to make
18 decisions related to securing the safety of their child or the
19 school faculty and staff's right to safe working conditions;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, In order for school personnel to manage a
22 hazardous materials incident safely and successfully, they too

1 must take part in effective pre-incident planning,
2 preparedness, training, exercises, and implementation of an
3 incident management system; and

4 WHEREAS, Even without derailing, spilling, or exploding,
5 doctors have warned that proximity to oil trains poses a
6 serious health risk with increasing rates in cancer, asthma,
7 and cardiovascular disease through exposure to particulate
8 matter released as emissions from trains; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge local emergency
11 response planning officials to partner with school districts in
12 their region in order to disseminate information pertaining to
13 safety threats related to the storage and transport of
14 hazardous substances, including petroleum oil and HHFTs, to the
15 parents of attending students, faculty and staff, and schools
16 at risk of being negatively impacted by storage facilities
17 and/or the transport of such hazardous materials; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That we urge local emergency response planning
20 officials to include school districts in their region in the
21 development and implementation of oil spill response plans
22 specific to incidents involving the storage and transport of
23 hazardous materials, including petroleum oil and HHFTs; and be

1 it further

2 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
3 delivered to all emergency response planning committees
4 throughout the state.