

S 763

Welded Rail and Tank Car Safety Improvement Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Apr 12, 2005

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3486-3487) (Apr 12, 2005)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/763

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Dorgan, Byron L. [D-ND]

Party: Democratic • State: ND • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Hutchison, Kay Bailey [R-TX]	R · TX		Apr 12, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 12, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Welded Rail and Tank Car Safety Improvement Act - Directs the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to: (1) require each track owner using continuous welded rail (CWR) track to include in the plan filed with the FRA procedures to improve the identification of cracks in rail joint bars; (2) instruct FRA track inspectors to obtain the most recent CWR program of a railroad and require them to use those programs when conducting track inspections; (3) establish a program to review CWR joint bar inspection data from railroads and FRA track inspectors periodically; (4) validate a predictive model to quantify the relevant dynamic forces acting on railroad tank cars under accident conditions; and (5) initiate a rulemaking to develop and implement appropriate design standards for pressurized tank cars.

Requires the FRA to: (1) conduct a comprehensive analysis to determine the impact resistance of the steels in the shells of pressure tank cars constructed before 1989; and (2) establish a program to rank the cars according to their risk of catastrophic fracture and separation, and implement measures to eliminate or mitigate such risk.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 12, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 12, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3486)
- **Apr 12, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3486-3487)