

HR 9690

Blocked Rail Crossings Safety Improvement Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Dec 23, 2022

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials. (Dec 26, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/9690>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]

Party: Democratic • **State:** IN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 26, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 3684	Related bill	Aug 4, 2022: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Hearings held.
117 HR 3698	Related bill	Jun 7, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.

Blocked Rail Crossings Safety Improvement Act of 2021

This bill addresses safety and congestion along railroad right-of-way and highway-rail grade crossings.

For example, the bill directs the Department of Transportation (DOT) to provide grants to (1) assist state, local, and tribal governments in funding the cost of highway-rail grade crossing separation projects; and (2) help nonprofit organizations carry out public information and education programs to help prevent and reduce rail-related pedestrian, motor vehicle, and other incidents, injuries, and fatalities, and to improve awareness along railroad right-of-way and at highway-rail grade crossings.

Additionally, the bill prohibits railroad carriers from obstructing travel at public highway-rail crossings for more than 10 minutes, except under limited circumstances (e.g., safety issues).

Further, DOT must (1) establish a national blocked crossings database for the public to report blocked crossing incidents; (2) conduct a comprehensive review of the national highway-rail crossing inventory; and (3) revise its regulations, guidance, or other relevant agency documents to include the number of suicides on a railroad crossing or railroad right-of-way in the total number of rail fatalities it reports each year.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 26, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.
- **Dec 23, 2022:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 23, 2022:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E1356)
- **Dec 23, 2022:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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