

HR 853

Assistance for Local Heroes During Train Crises Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Jan 31, 2025

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials. (Feb 1, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/853>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Deluzio, Christopher R. [D-PA-17]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Jan 31, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 1, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Assistance for Local Heroes During Train Crises Act

This bill establishes a Hazardous Train Event Emergency Reimbursement Fund for state and local emergency response groups.

Upon a declaration by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) that a hazardous train event has occurred, the FRA must immediately award at least \$250,000 from the emergency fund to one or more eligible groups (e.g., law enforcement agencies and fire departments). Additional amounts may be awarded, but may not exceed \$3 million per hazardous train event. The FRA may declare a hazardous train event has occurred following a derailment or crash involving a train carrying hazardous materials, hazardous waste, or other materials that pose a threat to public health, safety, and the environment.

Costs associated with a response to a hazardous train event that are eligible for reimbursement include (1) replacing damaged or contaminated equipment, (2) overtime pay for firefighters or law enforcement officers, and (3) retroactively covering these types of incurred costs after the event date.

The FRA must also (1) establish annual fees for shippers and carriers of hazardous materials by rail that have total annual collections of at least \$10 million, and (2) deposit the fees into the reimbursement fund.

Further, the Department of Transportation must issue regulations requiring railroads that transport hazardous materials by train to provide county and local emergency response groups with (1) advance warning of the train's load and timing, and (2) real-time location information on the train when it enters and exits the community's service area.

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