

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB31

Patron: Carroll Foy

Bill Title: Railroad safety; minimum train crew used in movement of freight, civil penalties.

Bill Summary: Requires a crew of at least two qualified individuals on all trains, locomotives, or light engines used in connection with moving freight. The bill requires a railroad company that violates its provisions to pay certain fines for first, second, and third or subsequent violations within three years.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: None

Explanation: Fiscal impact is indeterminate

Fiscal Summary: This bill creates a new civil penalty for railroad companies related to a minimum train crew requirement. By statute, all revenue collected by the Commonwealth from fines for civil penalties are deposited to the Literary Fund, unless otherwise specified. Literary Fund revenues must be used to support public school purposes, including school construction and the teachers retirement fund. The number of railroad companies found to be in violation of this provision is unknown; as a result, the impact to the Literary Fund is indeterminate.

The Department of Rail and Public Transportation does not enforce railroad safety standards, so there will not be a fiscal impact to the agency due to this bill.

The State Corporation Commission indicates there will be no fiscal impact to the Commission as a result of the provisions of this bill.

Other: This bill is identical to HB25 and SB191.