

**SHERROD BROWN**  
OHIO

COMMITTEES:  
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,  
AND FORESTRY

BANKING, HOUSING,  
AND URBAN AFFAIRS

FINANCE

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510 – 3505

May 3, 2023

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you and everyone in the SMART Transportation Division for your work in advocating for rail safety.

The East Palestine derailment three months ago brought national attention to what you already knew: that change is needed to make our trains safer for those on board and safer for the communities they travel through.

Rail safety is why I introduced bipartisan legislation with Senator J.D. Vance to make trains safer as they go through communities like East Palestine. I've visited East Palestine regularly since the derailment there, and we want to do everything in our power to make sure that a devastating accident like the one we've seen in Ohio never happens again.

The Railway Safety Act of 2023 will improve rail safety protocols, finally standing up to railroad company lobbyists so no other community has to deal with what East Palestine and others in Ohio, including residents of Springfield, Sandusky, and Steubenville, have experienced.

I have visited those communities, joined by leaders from SMART, to make the case for why this legislation is so important.

What this bill is about:

- ✓ Enhancing Safety Procedures for all Trains Carrying Hazardous Materials
- ✓ Preventing Wheel Bearing Failures
- ✓ Requiring Two-Person Crews
- ✓ Making Rail Carriers Pay for their Wrongdoing
- ✓ Supporting Communities Impacted by Rail Disasters
- ✓ Investing in the Next Generation of Safety Improvements

It shouldn't take a train derailment for elected officials to put partisanship aside and work together for the people we serve – not corporations like Norfolk Southern.

Your leadership in championing rail safety makes a difference. Thank you for making your voices heard.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown