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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. J. RES. _____

To provide for a resolution with respect to the unresolved disputes between certain railroads represented by the National Carriers' Conference Committee of the National Railway Labor Conference and certain of their employees.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M. _____ introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

JOINT RESOLUTION

To provide for a resolution with respect to the unresolved disputes between certain railroads represented by the National Carriers' Conference Committee of the National Railway Labor Conference and certain of their employees.

Whereas the unresolved labor disputes between certain railroads represented by the National Carriers' Conference Committee of the National Railway Labor Conference and their employees represented by certain labor organizations threaten essential transportation services of the United States;

Whereas it is in the national interest, including the national health and defense, that essential transportation services be maintained;

Whereas the President, pursuant to the provisions of section 10 of the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 160), by Executive Order No. 14077 of July 15, 2022, created Presidential Emergency Board No. 250 to investigate the disputes and report findings;

Whereas the recommendations of Presidential Emergency Board No. 250 issued on August 16, 2022, formed the basis for tentative agreements between all of the parties to the disputes;

Whereas some, but not all, of the tentative agreements have been ratified by the union memberships in final resolution of certain of the disputes between the parties;

Whereas unresolved disputes remain between the parties whose tentative agreements were not ratified by the union memberships;

Whereas the recommendations of Presidential Emergency Board No. 250 issued on August 16, 2022, have not resulted in a final resolution of all the disputes;

Whereas all the procedures provided under the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 151 et seq.), and further procedures agreed to by the parties, have been exhausted and have not resulted in a final resolution of all the disputes;

Whereas it is desirable that all such disputes be resolved in a manner which encourages solutions reached through collective bargaining;

Whereas Congress, under the Commerce Clause of the Constitution, has the authority and responsibility to ensure

the uninterrupted operation of essential transportation services;

Whereas Congress finds that emergency measures are essential to national security and continuity of transportation services by such railroads; and

Whereas Congress has in the past enacted legislation for such purposes: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CONDITIONS FOR RESOLVING DISPUTES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Consistent with the purposes of
5 the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 151 et seq.) to avoid
6 any labor dispute that threatens substantially to interrupt
7 interstate commerce to a degree such as to deprive any
8 section of the country of essential transportation service,
9 the most recent tentative agreements, side letters, and
10 local carrier agreements entered into by the covered par-
11 ties that have not been ratified before the date of enact-
12 ment of this joint resolution (including tentative agree-
13 ments, side letters, and local carrier agreements that have
14 failed ratification) shall be binding on such covered parties
15 to such unresolved disputes, and shall have the same effect
16 as though arrived at by agreement of such covered parties
17 under the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 151 et seq.).

18 (b) COVERED PARTIES.—In this section, the term
19 “covered parties” means the parties to the unresolved dis-

1 putes subject to Presidential Emergency Board No. 250,
2 established pursuant to Executive Order 14077 of July
3 15, 2022 (87 Fed. Reg. 43203; relating to establishing
4 an emergency board to investigate disputes between cer-
5 tain railroads represented by the National Carriers' Con-
6 ference Committee of the National Railway Labor Con-
7 ference and their employees represented by certain labor
8 organizations) and the provisions of section 10 of the Rail-
9 way Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 160).

10 **SEC. 2. MUTUAL AGREEMENT.**

11 Nothing in this joint resolution shall prevent any mu-
12 tual written agreement by the parties to implement the
13 terms and conditions established by this joint resolution,
14 or prevent a mutual written agreement to any terms and
15 conditions different from those established by this joint
16 resolution.