

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.293

Reps. Sneller, Sowerby, Ellison, Cherry, O'Malley, Roth, Clemente, Brabec, Neeley, Steenland, Liberati, Shannon, Camilleri, Peterson, Howell, Sabo, LaFave, Griffin, Lasinski, Jones, Coleman, Yancey, Haadsma, Hope, Kahle, Morse, Rogers, Stone, Weiss, Witwer and Young offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to declare May 11, 2022, as Rail Day in the state  
2 of Michigan.

3       Whereas, America celebrates National Rail Day in May to  
4 commemorate the completion of America's first transcontinental  
5 railroad on May 11, 1869; and

6       Whereas, Michigan is fortunate to have 3,465 freight rail  
7 miles operated by 29 freight carriers and Amtrak passenger service;  
8 and

9       Whereas, From the auto industry and other manufacturers to

1 mining and agriculture, Michigan's productive freight rail network  
2 provides key connections to keep the Great Lakes State economy  
3 vibrant; and

4       Whereas, Railroads are a very safe way to move freight and are  
5 working hard to improve infrastructure and equipment safety, reduce  
6 human error and protect the rail network every day; and

7       Whereas, Between 2000 and 2021, train accidents were down 33%  
8 and between 2000 and 2020, the hazmat accident rate was down 60%.  
9 The rail employee injury rate in 2020 was an all-time low; and

10       Whereas, Technology used throughout the nearly 140,000-mile  
11 national rail network – from smart sensors to big data and drones –  
12 ensure infrastructure and equipment remains safe; and

13       Whereas, Moving freight by rail prevented 6.97 million tons of  
14 greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of taking 1.37 million  
15 cars off the road or planting 105.6 million trees; and

16       Whereas, Railroads help preserve infrastructure and aid in  
17 cutting congestion. Freight railroads take 4.7 million truckloads  
18 off Michigan roads annually; now, therefore, be it

19       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
20 this legislative body declare May 11, 2022, as Rail Day in the  
21 state of Michigan, and be it further

22       Resolved, That we recognize and celebrate the pivotal role  
23 that a robust freight railroad and passenger system is to the  
24 residents of the Great Lakes State.