

HB 280 -- RAILROAD GRADE CROSSINGS

SPONSOR: Ruth

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Transportation by a vote of 12 to 2. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 5 to 2.

This bill includes "on-track equipment" in the traffic regulations concerning the requirement to stop for trains at railroad crossings.

This bill is the same as HB 2181 (2018).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will help prevent accidents at railroad crossings.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Ruth; Richard Taylor, Brotherhood Of Maintenance of Way Employees International Brotherhood of Teamsters; and Sheet Metal/Air/Rail/Transportation (Smart).

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that railroad track equipment does not use horns or lights in the same manner as trains and does not automatically set off track crossing arms. Accidents with such equipment could be either party's fault.

Testifying against the bill was Steven Groves.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say they want to be involved with the discussions and are supportive of the safety of their workers.

Testifying on the bill was Missouri Railroad Association.