

By: Anderson of McLennan

H.C.R. No. 49

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Train safety is a vital issue that affects all
2 Texans, and promoting awareness of correct safety procedures around
3 railroads can potentially save many lives; and

4 WHEREAS, The Texas Department of Insurance reports that a
5 train hits someone in the United States every 115 minutes, often
6 with fatal results, and the nonprofit Operation Lifesaver
7 calculates that an average of nearly 2,000 Americans are killed or
8 injured each year on highway-rail grade crossings; according to the
9 Federal Railroad Administration, in 2015, Texas led the nation in
10 highway-rail grade collisions with 224 such incidents and suffered
11 some 69 pedestrian rail trespass casualties, the second most of any
12 state; and

13 WHEREAS, A locomotive can take up to one mile to halt after
14 first applying its brakes, and because the average weight ratio of a
15 train to a car is 4,000 to 1, collisions between the two usually
16 result in tragedy for motor vehicle drivers; it is important to
17 always use caution near railroad crossings, including slowing down,
18 looking both ways, yielding to flashing lights and other signals,
19 and keeping a safe distance from the railroad when stopped; train
20 safety is equally important for pedestrians, and the only safe and
21 legal place to cross railroad tracks is at a designated pedestrian
22 or roadway crossing; and

23 WHEREAS, It is imperative that motorists and pedestrians
24 throughout the Lone Star State better understand the dangers that

1 exist around railroads and the necessity of following proper train
2 safety practices; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas
4 hereby designate July as Train Safety Awareness Month; and, be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That in accordance with the provisions of Section
7 [391.004](#)(d), Government Code, this designation remain in effect
8 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally
9 passed by the legislature.