



**From:**

Antonio Diaz-Guy  
Village Manager  
[a.diazguy@eastpalestine-oh.gov](mailto:a.diazguy@eastpalestine-oh.gov)

Trent Conaway  
Mayor  
[t.conaway@eastpalestine-oh.gov](mailto:t.conaway@eastpalestine-oh.gov)

**10.21.2025**

**Re: Support for the Reducing Accidents in Locomotives (RAIL) Act**

Dear Committee,

We write to express our support for the intent and purpose of H.R. 971, the Reducing Accidents in Locomotives (RAIL) Act. As the site of the devastating 2023 train derailment, our community continues to experience the physical, economic, and emotional effects of that tragedy. We have seen firsthand the importance of improving the safety, transparency, and accountability of rail transport throughout our nation. While we are dedicated to our own recovery, we are also very much interested in partnering with government and industry to support future improvements in rail safety.

The people of East Palestine understand the vital role that rail plays in the movement of goods and the strength of our national economy. We also know that this system must be made safer—not just for communities like ours, but for the thousands of towns and cities that live alongside these rail lines every day. We commend all efforts, including those within the RAIL Act, that focus on practical and effective safety measures, improved emergency response coordination, and a stronger framework for oversight and prevention.

While we do not possess the technical knowledge to take a position on any single provision within the Act, we strongly support the overarching goal of enhancing the safety of America’s railways and protecting the communities they pass through. We encourage Congress to move forward thoughtfully and collaboratively to enact legislation that delivers meaningful, real-world improvements in rail safety.

Thank you for your consideration and continued attention to the needs of East Palestine and other rail communities across the United States.

Sincerely,

Antonio Diaz-Guy  
Village Manager  
Village of East Palestine, Ohio

Trent Conaway  
Mayor  
Village of East Palestine, Ohio