SLS 19RS-1914 ORIGINAL

2019 Regular Session

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 101

BY SENATORS CARTER, ALARIO AND MORRELL AND REPRESENTATIVE MARINO

RAILROADS. Requests DOTD and DEQ to collaborate with the Union Pacific Railroad and designated federal agencies to conduct a thorough environmental review on quantifiable public health, safety, and welfare impacts associated with any new railroad alignment in the city of Gretna.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality to collaborate with the Union 3 Pacific Railroad, the Federal Railroad Administration, the executive office of the 4 5 United States Department of Transportation, and the Surface Transportation Board to conduct a thorough environmental review that accounts for the magnitude of 6 7 adverse, quantifiable public health, safety, and welfare impacts associated with any 8 new railroad alignment in the city of Gretna, Louisiana. 9 WHEREAS, the city of Gretna is acknowledged to have some of the most 10 problematic urban rail safety conditions in the country, with some of the nation's highest 11 concentration of unprotected rail crossings and insufficient buffers for the transport of hazardous materials: and 12 13 WHEREAS, the city of Gretna, and other regional partners, including the New 14 Orleans Gulf Coast Railroad, Jefferson Parish, and Plaquemines Parish, worked together to identify a viable, mutually agreed upon realignment during a four-year Environmental 15 Assessment for the LA 23 New Orleans and Gulf Coast Railway Relocation Project 16 conducted by the Federal Railroad Administration; and 17

WHEREAS, any new rail alignment within the city of Gretna that does not conform

SLS 19RS-1914 ORIGINAL SCR NO. 101

to the preferred alternative should require a thorough environmental review that fully accounts for the public health and safety impacts associated with the addition of new crossings, transport of hazardous materials, impact on emergency services response and critical facilities, and community quality of life and welfare.

SCR 101 Original

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality to collaborate with the Union Pacific Railroad, the Federal Railroad Administration, the executive office of the United States Department of Transportation, and the Surface Transportation Board to conduct a thorough environmental review that accounts for the magnitude of adverse, quantifiable public health, safety, and welfare impacts associated with any new railroad alignment in the city of Gretna, Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, the Union Pacific Railroad, the administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration, the secretary of the United States Department of Transportation, and the chairwoman of the Surface Transportation Board.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

DIGEST 2019 Regular Session

Carter

Requests the DOTD and the LDEQ to collaborate with the Union Pacific Railroad, the Federal Railroad Administration, the executive office of the U.S. DOT, and the Surface Transportation Board to conduct a thorough environmental review that accounts for the magnitude of adverse, quantifiable public health, safety, and welfare impacts associated with any new railroad alignment in Gretna, Louisiana.