

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8417

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require all railroad freight cars operating on the United States general railroad system of transportation to meet certain manufacturing and content requirements, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2026

Mr. MOOLENAAR (for himself and Mr. GOTTHEIMER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require all railroad freight cars operating on the United States general railroad system of transportation to meet certain manufacturing and content requirements, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Keeping China Off
5 the Rails Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO REQUIREMENTS FOR RAILROAD**
2 **FREIGHT CARS PLACED INTO SERVICE IN**
3 **THE UNITED STATES.**

4 Section 20171 of title 49, United States Code, is
5 amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)—

7 (A) in paragraph (1) by striking “A rail-
8 road freight car wholly manufactured on or
9 after the date that is 1 year after the date of
10 issuance of the regulations required under sub-
11 section (c)(1)” and inserting “A railroad freight
12 car described in paragraph (3)”;

13 (B) in paragraph (2) by striking “de-
14 scribed in paragraph (1)” in each place it oc-
15 curs and insert “described in paragraph (3)”;
16 and

17 (C) by adding at the end the following new
18 paragraph:

19 “(3) RAILROAD FREIGHT CAR DESCRIBED.—
20 For purposes of paragraph (1), a railroad freight car
21 described in this paragraph is—

22 “(A) for the 1-year period beginning on
23 the date of enactment of the Keeping China Off
24 the Rails Act, a railroad freight car produced
25 during the 2-year period immediately prior to
26 such date of enactment;

1 “(B) for the 1-year period beginning 1
2 year after such date of enactment, a railroad
3 freight car produced during the 5-year period
4 immediately prior to such date of enactment;

5 “(C) for the 1-year period beginning 2
6 years after such date of enactment, a railroad
7 freight car produced during the 10-year period
8 immediately prior to such date of enactment;

9 “(D) for the 1-year period beginning 3
10 years after such date of enactment, a railroad
11 freight car produced during the 15-year period
12 immediately prior to such date of enactment;
13 and

14 “(E) on and after the date that is 4 years
15 after such date of enactment, a railroad freight
16 car.”; and

17 (2) in subsection (c)(3)(B) by striking “Asso-
18 ciation of American Railroad’s Umler system” and
19 inserting “Association of American Railroads’ Umler
20 system”.

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