

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8468

To protect the jobs of American railroad workers in cross-border traffic with Mexico, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 2026

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

A BILL

To protect the jobs of American railroad workers in cross-border traffic with Mexico, 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 “Protecting American
5 Railroad Workers’ Jobs Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. TRAIN CREW REQUIREMENTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 201 of
8 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
9 end the following:

1 **“§ 20172. Border crossings and train crew require-**
2 **ments**

3 “(a) BORDER CROSSINGS.—The Secretary of Trans-
4 portation shall require—

5 “(1) any railroad carrier that is operating a
6 freight train across the southern border into the
7 United States to stop such train at the southern
8 border to conduct a crew interchange and any feder-
9 ally mandated safety testing; and

10 “(2) the railroad carrier to ensure that the only
11 individuals who operate such trains after carrying
12 out the activities described in paragraph (1) are in-
13 dividuals—

14 “(A) who are—

15 “(i) nationals of the United States; or

16 “(ii) aliens residing in the United
17 States and lawfully authorized to engage in
18 employment in the United States; and

19 “(B) whose primary reporting point is in
20 the United States and who perform no duties
21 for a railroad carrier while physically outside of
22 the United States.

23 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 “(1) ALIEN; NATIONAL OF THE UNITED
25 STATES.—The terms ‘alien’ and ‘national of the
26 United States’ have the meanings given those terms

1 in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality
2 Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

3 “(2) SOUTHERN BORDER.—The term ‘southern
4 border’ means the international border between the
5 United States and Mexico.”.

6 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for sub-
7 chapter II of chapter 201 of title 49, United States Code,
8 is amended by adding at the end the following:

“20172. Border crossings and train crew requirements.”.

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