

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 33  
2 BY HURLEY, HAMMITT, and GARMAN  
3 A Concurrent Resolution urging the required use of  
4 reflectorized strips on railroad cars.  
5 WHEREAS, safe travel of rail freight and  
6 passengers, as well as the motoring public, is a  
7 paramount concern of this state; and  
8 WHEREAS, Iowa has over 4,000 miles of railroad  
9 track in this state as well as a significant number of  
10 railroad crossings; and  
11 WHEREAS, Iowa motorists have been involved in about  
12 115 accidents involving trains and motor vehicles each  
13 year, with an average of 12 fatalities each year and  
14 18 fatalities during 1994; and  
15 WHEREAS, measures to try to improve railroad safety  
16 through upgraded railroad crossing devices have always  
17 been supported; and  
18 WHEREAS, the use of reflectorized strips on  
19 railroad cars has been proposed as a measure to try to  
20 reduce the number of accidents and fatalities  
21 involving trains and motor vehicles by improving the  
22 visibility of trains; and  
23 WHEREAS, several railroad companies, including the  
24 Chicago and Northwestern, Soo Line, and Burlington  
25 Northern, have begun to experiment with the use of  
26 reflectorized strips on railroad cars; and  
27 WHEREAS, the use of reflectorized strips, however,  
28 is not currently required by law or regulation; and  
29 WHEREAS, regulation of rail transportation is a  
30 federal concern with limited ability of states to

1 propose requirements that affect railroads that  
2 operate in interstate commerce; NOW THEREFORE,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE  
4 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Iowa General Assembly  
5 encourage railroads to use reflectorized strips on  
6 railroad cars in order to improve the safety of  
7 railroads and motorists.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa congressional  
9 delegation be urged to support efforts to require the  
10 use of reflectorized strips on railroad cars through  
11 law or regulation.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this  
13 resolution be sent to the Governor, the President of  
14 the United States, the President of the United States  
15 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of  
16 Representatives, members of Iowa's congressional  
17 delegation, and the Secretary of the United States  
18 Department of Transportation.

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