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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. PAPPAS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

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.”.