

Senators Hansen offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 90.

A resolution recognizing September 24-30, 2017, as National Rail Safety Week.

Whereas, Nationally, rail road crossing collisions have plummeted by 83 percent over the past four decades due to education, engineering, and enforcement, and we must continue our progress; and

Whereas, In 2016, 68 crashes occurred at public highway-rail grade crossings, resulting in eight fatalities and 26 injuries in the state of Michigan; and

Whereas, Last year, 12 trespassing incidents resulted in nine pedestrian deaths as well as six injuries while trespassing on railroad right-of-ways in Michigan; and

Whereas, Michigan ranked tenth nationally for highway-rail crossing collisions in 2016; and

Whereas, Michigan Operation Lifesaver, as well as local and railroad law enforcement officers, first responders, and area railroad companies, partner together in an effort to eliminate crashes at highway-rail grade crossings and prevent trespasser incidents along railroad right-of-ways; and

Whereas, In 2017 Michigan will be joining 47 other states in implementing “Operation Lifesaver,” a regional rail-safety initiative during the Inaugural National Rail Safety Week; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we recognize the importance of improving awareness of rail safety, acknowledge that by educating and informing the general public about rail safety, reminding the public that railroad right-of-ways are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway-rail grade crossings, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws can help prevent these incidents; and be it further

Resolved by the Senate, That we recognize September 24-30, 2017, as National Rail Safety Week.