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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

Colorado Municipal League Joins Local Leaders, U. S. Senator Cantwell on Capitol Hill to Call for Passage of Railway Safety Act

Bipartisan safety legislation would keep rail moving safely through Colorado Municipalities

DENVER, Colo. – Thursday, May 18, 2023 - On Wednesday, May 17, Colorado Municipal League (CML) joined a press conference hosted by the National League of Cities and U.S. Senate Commerce Committee Chair Maria Cantwell (WA) on the need for Congress to act on rail safety.

Local leaders, including [over 60 Colorado municipal officials](#), highlighted their communities' rail concerns and urged the Senate to pass the bipartisan Railway Safety Act of 2023. [You can watch the press conference here.](#)

Around 140,000 miles of track in the U.S. cross directly through many of the nation's 19,000 cities, towns and villages. The unfortunate derailment and environmental contamination in East Palestine, Ohio is not unprecedented, with more than 1,000 trains derailing last year in multiple states. [More than 500 cities, towns and villages signed letters urging Congress to act on rail safety.](#)

"The bipartisan Railway Safety Act is trying to prevent disasters like East Palestine from happening in any other town in America again," said Senator Marie Cantwell (WA), Chair of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. "We took the lessons of East Palestine and turned them into legislation."

The bipartisan Railway Safety Act passed the Senate Commerce Committee last week. The legislation must now pass the full Senate. A summary of its key provisions can be found [here](#).

Kevin Bommer, executive director of CML, is in DC for the National League of Cities State Municipal League leadership fly-in. They met with key congressional staff to discuss municipal priorities and advocate on behalf of their residents. Earlier today, the group visited the White House to meet with key staff and discuss investments in infrastructure, the debt ceiling and other local priorities.

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[Colorado Municipal League](#) (CML) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization established in 1923 and represents the interests of 270 cities and towns. For more information on the Colorado Municipal League, please visit cml.org, call 303-831-6411 or stay connected on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#).

[The National League of Cities](#) (NLC) is the voice of America's cities, towns and villages, representing more than 200 million people. NLC works to strengthen local leadership, influence federal policy and drive innovative solutions. Stay connected with NLC on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).