

Dave Stevenson  
SMART-TD  
LD 1824

Testimony of Dave Stevenson  
New England Safety and Legislative Director, SMART-TD  
In Support of LD 1824

Good afternoon, my name is Dave Stevenson, and I'm the New England Safety and Legislative Director for SMART-TD, representing locomotive engineers and conductors across New England.

I'm here today in strong support of LD 1824, which would remove train crew names from police reports after a trespasser is struck by a train.

These incidents are deeply traumatic for our members, who are often forced to act as first responders and attempt to render aid. The majority of these tragedies are suicides, where individuals — unfortunately — choose to involve train crews in their final moments. Crews are powerless to prevent these events, yet they carry the emotional burden and long-term effects, including stress, PTSD, and serious impacts on both job performance and personal life.

Including crew members' names in police reports — and later, in news articles — has led to harassment and threats from families and friends of the deceased. Depending on how the article is written, it can even give the false impression that the crew was at fault. There is no valid reason this personal information should be made public after such incidents.

LD 1824 offers a simple, compassionate solution that protects railroad workers' privacy and mental health without compromising transparency or investigative integrity.

I urge you to support this important legislation. Thank you.