

Senator Nofs offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 142.

A resolution in support and recognition of National Train Day.

Whereas, America is celebrating National Train Day on May 10, 2014, a commemoration of the completion of America's First Transcontinental Railroad; and

Whereas, In 2013, Amtrak provided statewide passenger rail travel to over three-quarters of a million Michigan travelers; and

Whereas, The expansion of high-speed and intercity passenger rail has become a priority in building the 21st century national infrastructure; and

Whereas, Michigan's 22 railroad stations are a source of civic pride, a gateway to our communities, and a tool for economic growth that creates transportation-oriented development and livable communities; and

Whereas, A healthy freight and passenger rail network is essential to keeping the American economy moving efficiently; and

Whereas, Amtrak continues to work with Michigan on the development of the next generation of high-speed and intercity passenger rail trains which will create good jobs and grow the American manufacturing base; and

Whereas, Amtrak ridership has grown more than 50 percent since 2000, and the railroad carried 31.6 million passengers in 2013, making it the best year in the company's history; and

Whereas, On May 10, 1869, the "Golden Spike" was driven into the final tie at Promontory Summit, Utah Territory, to join the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific Railroads, ceremonially completing the First Transcontinental Railroad; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we hereby recognize May 10, 2014, as National Train Day in the state of Michigan and congratulate Amtrak on 43 years as America's railroad; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers and Amtrak as a token of our esteem.