



KEYSTONE STATE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

TRANSPORTATION RECAP

MARCH 4, 2019

2019 Rail Day on the Hill KSRRA's 2019

Rail Day on the Hill is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 30, 2019. This is an important annual event, as we meet face to face with legislators from all over the Commonwealth. We have meetings scheduled, and we would like to see a strong attendance for this year's Rail Day on the Hill. Please let us know if you are planning on attending by emailing justin@longnyquist.com.

Hot Ingots Bill to be Reintroduced in New Session

We have been notified by House Transportation staff that Representative Marshall (Beaver) is planning on introducing a new bill addressing permitting changing for the hauling of hot ingots by tractor trailers. We actively opposed this bill in the past. We continue to have concerns about attempts to increase allowable truck size and weight limits for certain industries, and we will actively make our voice heard on this matter.

KSRRA Spring Meeting to feature guest speaker Deputy Secretary of Multimodal Transportation Jennifer Granger

Jennifer Granger, AICP, became the Deputy Secretary for Multimodal Transportation in July 2018. She provides oversight for Department initiatives and policy related to public transportation, aviation, rail freight, passenger rail, bike/ pedestrian and ports. She previously served PennDOT as Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary, Bureau Director of Aviation, and Director of PennPORTS. Granger brings 24 years of progressive public and private sector experience in all facets of management and technical knowledge of multimodal transportation development to the Department. Granger holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from the Pennsylvania State University and a Bachelor's degree in Rural/Urban Studies from Shippensburg University.

R.J. Corman joins AAR

—Progressive Railroading

R. J. Corman Railroad Group has joined the Association of American Railroads (AAR) as a full member, the association announced yesterday.

R. J. Corman will participate in AAR's Safety and Operations Management Committee and the Policy and Advocacy Management Committee. The committees are charged with advancing sound public policies and establishing safety, security and operating standards, AAR officials said in a press release.

R. J. Corman Railroad Co. operates 13 short line railroads and is a subsidiary of R. J. Corman Railroad Group. Altogether, the company employs more than 1,500 people in 22 states.

In addition to short line railroad and switching operations, R. J. Corman provides emergency response, track material distribution, track construction, and signal design and construction services, as well as markets eco-friendly locomotives.

Rj Corman Railroad Company



Upcoming Events

February 26, 2019 - 1:00 p.m. - House Appropriations Room 140, Main Capitol

February 27, 2019 - 2:00 p.m. Budget Hearing Department of Transportation House Democratic Policy Committee, Dunmore Community Center 1414 Monroe Avenue, Dunmore. Public hearing with Rep. Kyle Mullins on transportation.

February 28, 2019 - 10:00 a.m. PA Public Utility Commission, Commonwealth Keystone Building, Hearing Room 1, 400 North St., Harrisburg. Public Meeting. For additional information: (717) 783-1740.

March 5, 2019 - 9:00 a.m. Delaware River Port Authority/PATCO, 2 Riverside Drive, Camden NJ Operations & Maintenance Committee Meeting. For additional information: (856) 968-2253

KSRRA Spring meeting

April 29, 2019 1:00 p.m. Location TBD

KSRRA Rail Day on the Hill

April 30, 2019

Pennsylvania Legislature 2019 Session Schedule

SENATE:	
MARCH	18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27
APRIL	8, 9, 10, 29, 30
MAY	1, 6, 7, 8
JUNE	3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28
HOUSE:	
MARCH	11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27
APRIL	8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 29, 30
MAY	1, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23
JUNE	3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28

MARCH 4, 2019

Rail groups ask Congress to oppose lifting truck weight, size limits

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) and American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) joined other organizations earlier this week in asking Congress to oppose legislative language that would increase maximum truck size or weight limits on federal highways.

In a Feb. 25 letter, the organizations also called on lawmakers to oppose legislative language that would allow bigger trucks in individual states through pilot programs.

"Any change overturning current federal weight laws allowing heavier or longer tractor-trailers would have detrimental impacts on our national, county and local infrastructure, costing billions of dollars in additional bridge and pavement costs," the letter stated.

The groups noted that proposals in recent years to increase the maximum limits have been rejected on bipartisan votes. In addition, they cited a 2016 U.S. Department of Transportation report that found heavier and longer trucks would incur billions in increased infrastructure costs.

Other organizations signing the letter included GoRail, the National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association, Railway Engineering-Maintenance Suppliers Association, Railway Supply Institute and the Coalition Against Bigger Trucks.

Their letter was sent a few weeks after the Americans for Modern Transportation (AMT) called on Congress to increase the national twin-trailer truck standard from



28 feet to 33 feet. The AMT represents such shippers as Amazon, FedEx and UPS, and shippers represented by the National Retail Federation.

Meanwhile, ASLRRA President Chuck Baker testified on the issue yesterday before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Transportation and Safety.

"Short lines are part of a broad coalition of interests — including safety advocates, law enforcement officials, rail labor, truck labor, independent truckers, Class I railroads, and even some truckload carriers — who oppose bigger and heavier trucks," said Baker, according to his prepared remarks. "Bigger trucks mean diversion from rail to truck and thus more expensive damage to our highways and bridges, more highway congestion, more environmental damage, and more danger for the motoring public."



Bills in Committee

House Bill 413 – Donna Oberlander

Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in fees, for hauling permits; & in size, weight and load, for conditions of permits & security for damages & for permit for movement of commercial implements of husbandry and farm equipment.

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/billInfo/billInfo.cfm?sYear=2019&sInd=0&body=H&type=B&bn=0413>

In The News

2/28/2019 – *Progressive Railroading* - **U.S. rail traffic down a bit in Week 8** - https://www.progressiverailroading.com/rail_industry_trends/news/US-rail-traffic-down-a-bit-in-Week-8--56885

02/28/2019 - *Progressive Railroading* - **ASLRRA names Oelsner AVP data and technology** - <https://www.progressiverailroading.com/people/news/ASLRRA-names-Oelsner-AVP-data-and-technology--56881>

02/27/2019 - *Politico* - **Lighthizer plays down a quick deal on China** - <https://www.politico.com/story/2019/02/27/china-trade-deal-lighthizer-1222220>