



KEEP THE RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD FUNCTIONING TO SERVE CONSTITUENTS

The Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) is an independent federal agency that provides retirement, unemployment, sickness, disability, spousal, and survivor benefits to over 690,000 railroad workers and their families. Unlike other agencies, RRB's budget comes from railroad trust funds, not federal revenue. **These benefits are fully funded by railroad workers and employers, not taxpayers.**

The RRB's funding structure is unique in that railroad employer/employee taxes are held in trust funds to pay railroad benefits and administer operations. Enacted appropriations language authorizes the RRB's administrative budget to be appropriated from the railroad retirement trust fund system to finance operations, rather than the federal general revenue fund.

Despite the trust fund being fully solvent, Congress has kept RRB's administrative funding stagnant for seven years, worsening staffing and IT challenges.

REQUESTS:

Fully fund the RRB at their requested level of \$206M

- Congress has underfunded RRB's request by nearly \$50M for the last 7 FY's, leading to staffing and IT issues.
- Funding the agency at this amount would allow them to hire enough full-time employees (FTEs) needed to meet their mission, sustain critical operations, and modernize outdated IT systems.
- Closing offices does not save taxpayer money, as RRB funds its operations independently.

Encourage the Administration to Keep RRB Field Offices Open

- The RRB has 53 field offices across the country that provide vital, in-person services to constituents in 49 states.
- The GSA has identified 21 field offices they would like to close including locations in; AR, AZ, CA, FL, IL, KS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NJ, OH, OR, PA, TN, TX, UT, & VA.
- Closing offices does not save taxpayer money, as RRB funds its operations independently and only creates more problems for constituents.

Maintaining RRB's workforce and field offices is essential to ensuring rail workers receive the benefits they earn.