

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 7
OFFERED BY MS. EDWARDS OF MARYLAND

At the end of title II of the bill, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 20** ____ . **NATIONAL RAIL TRANSIT STANDARDS.**

2 (a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress makes the following find-
3 ings:

4 (1) Every weekday more than 7,000,000 people
5 board rail transit vehicles in the United States.

6 (2) Despite the National Transportation Safety
7 Board's recommendations to the Federal Transit
8 Administration to establish and enforce Federal
9 safety standards for transit agencies operating heavy
10 rail on fixed guideway, the Federal Transit Adminis-
11 tration has not taken action because of a perceived
12 absence of authority to establish such standards.

13 (3) The Federal Transit Administration has not
14 established minimum Federal standards that govern
15 the structural crashworthiness of heavy rail pas-
16 senger cars on fixed guideway.

17 (4) The National Transportation Safety Board
18 concluded that the failure to have minimum crash-
19 worthiness standards places an unnecessary risk on
20 passengers and crew.

1 (5) The Federal Transit Administration does
2 not have any requirements that rail transit cars be
3 equipped with means for safe and rapid emergency
4 responder entry and passenger evacuation.

5 (6) Although the installation of data recorders
6 on rail transit cars would help investigators deter-
7 mine the factors contributing to crashes, the Federal
8 Transit Administration does not require such instal-
9 lation.

10 (7) Although the National Transportation Safe-
11 ty Board has expressed concern that the hours of
12 service practices of transit agencies do not provide
13 transit vehicle operators with the opportunity to ob-
14 tain adequate sleep to be fully alert and to operate
15 safely, the Federal Transit Administration does not
16 have hours of service regulations to govern the prac-
17 tices of transit agencies.

18 (b) NATIONAL RAIL TRANSIT SAFETY STAND-
19 ARDS.—

20 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Notwithstanding section
21 5334(b)(1) of title 49, United States Code, the Sec-
22 retary of Transportation, in consultation with the
23 National Transportation Safety Board shall, by reg-
24 ulation, develop, implement, and enforce national

1 safety standards for transit agencies operating heavy
2 rail on fixed guideway.

3 (2) INCLUSION OF NTSB RECOMMENDATIONS.—

4 The standards established under paragraph (1) shall
5 include the standards recommended to the Federal
6 Transit Administration by the National Transpor-
7 tation Safety Board related to crashworthiness,
8 emergency access and egress, event recorders, and
9 hours of service.

10 (3) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after
11 the date of the enactment of this section, the Sec-
12 retary of Transportation shall submit a report to
13 Congress that describes the progress made in estab-
14 lishing the standards described in paragraph (1).



