The team at Blocknative has worked on relay improvements to help validators reduce their occurrence of orphan slots.

## **Orphan Slots**

If the proposing validator takes too much time to submit their block to their beacon node, the next proposing validator may not receive the data in time (ie: the block doesn't reach them fast enough). This results in a fork and an orphaned slot. More info can be seen <a href="here">here</a> regarding orphan slots.

## **New Feature**

In order to help validators reduce their instance of orphaned slots, we recently implemented a flag that synchronously publishes blocks to the beacon chain to reduce syncing issues. As soon as getPayload

is requested the Blocknative Relay publishes the block to its beacon node.

## What you need to know

No action is needed by Validators - this is done automatically.