

A bill for an act  
relating to railroads; directing commissioner to apply for federal grants for rail  
safety technology; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 219.01.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 219.01, is amended to read:

**219.01 TRACK SAFETY STANDARDS; SAFETY TECHNOLOGY GRANTS.**

(a) The track safety standards of the United States Department of Transportation and  
Federal Railroad Administration apply to railroad trackage and are the standards for the  
determination of unsafe trackage within the state.

(b) The commissioner of transportation shall apply to the Federal Railroad  
Administration under Public Law 110-432, the Railroad Safety Enhancement Act of  
2008 (the act), for (1) railroad safety technology grant funding available under section  
105 of the act and (2) development and installation of rail safety technology, including  
provision for switch position indicator signals in nonsignalized main track territory,  
under section 406 of the act. The commissioner shall respond and make application to  
the Federal Railroad Administration notice of funds availability under the Rail Safety  
Assurance Act in a timely manner and before the date of the program deadline to assure  
full consideration of the application. The commissioner shall (i) prioritize grant requests  
for the installation of switch indicator signals on all segments of nonsignalized track  
where posted speeds are in excess of 20 miles per hour and (ii) apply for grant funding in  
each year after 2009 until all nonsignalized track territory in the state has switch indicator  
signals installed and in operation.

(c) Prior to applying for funds under paragraph (b), the commissioner shall solicit  
grant requests from all eligible railroads. The commissioner shall submit written notice to

2.1 the chairs of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over transportation policy and  
2.2 finance of an acceptance by a class one or class two railroad of federal grant program  
2.3 funding for switch point indicator monitor systems.

2.4 (d) Participating railroads shall provide the 20 percent nonfederal match. Railroads  
2.5 shall provide all technical documentation requested by the commissioner and required by  
2.6 the Federal Railroad Administration for the applications under paragraph (b). Railroads  
2.7 are responsible for developing, acquiring, and installing all rail safety technology obtained  
2.8 under this section in accordance with requirements established by the Federal Railroad  
2.9 Administration.