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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1251

02/25/2015 Authored by Hornstein, Lien, Uglem, Newberger, Freiberg and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to transportation; railroads; providing for a railroad assessment;
1.3 appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes,
1.4 chapter 219.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[219.016] RAILROAD COMPANY ASSESSMENT; ACCOUNT;**
1.7 **APPROPRIATION.**

1.8 (a) As provided in this section, the commissioner shall annually assess railroad
1.9 companies that are (1) defined as common carriers under section 218.011; (2) classified by
1.10 federal law or regulation as Class I Railroads or Class I Rail Carriers; and (3) operating in
1.11 this state. The total assessment amount may not exceed \$32,500,000 annually.

1.12 (b) The assessment must be by a division of the annual appropriation to the grade
1.13 crossing safety improvement account in equal proportion between carriers based on route
1.14 miles operated in Minnesota, assessed in equal amounts for 365 days of the calendar year.

1.15 (c) The assessments must be deposited in the rail grade crossing safety improvement
1.16 account, which is created in the special revenue fund. Money in the account is
1.17 appropriated to the commissioner for the development, administration, and construction of
1.18 highway-rail grade crossing improvements on rail corridors transporting crude oil, and
1.19 other selected routes, including those carrying hazardous materials. Improvements may
1.20 include upgrades to existing protection systems, the closing of crossings and necessary
1.21 roadwork, and reconstruction of at-grade crossings to full grade separations. Funds in
1.22 the account are available until expended.