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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 1639

02/25/2021 Authored by Hausman, Lippert and Pelowski
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Capital Investment

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to transportation; capital investment; appropriating money for passenger
1.3 rail infrastructure; authorizing the sale and issuance of state bonds.

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

1.5 Section 1. PASSENGER RAIL; APPROPRIATION AND BOND SALE
1.6 AUTHORIZATION.

1.7 Subdivision 1. Appropriation. (a) \$160,000,000 is appropriated from the bond proceeds
1.8 fund to the commissioner of transportation for intercity passenger rail projects on phase I
1.9 corridors as identified in the 2015 update to the state rail plan under Minnesota Statutes,
1.10 section 174.03, subdivision 1b.

1.11 (b) This appropriation is for expenditure by the commissioner or for grants to political
1.12 subdivisions and is available for: development of rail investment performance measures,
1.13 project cost estimating, alternatives analysis, program delivery, design, preliminary and
1.14 final engineering, environmental analysis and mitigation, acquisition of land and right-of-way,
1.15 and construction.

1.16 (c) Eligible projects include the Northern Lights Express project between Minneapolis
1.17 and St. Paul and Duluth; a second daily Amtrak train service between Minneapolis and St.
1.18 Paul and Chicago; passenger rail connection between St. Paul and Minneapolis; intercity
1.19 passenger rail between Minneapolis or St. Paul, or both, and Northfield and Albert Lea;
1.20 intercity passenger rail between Minneapolis or St. Paul, or both, and Mankato; intercity
1.21 passenger rail between Minneapolis or St. Paul, or both, and Moorhead; and intercity
1.22 passenger rail between Minneapolis or St. Paul, or both, and Eau Claire, provided that this
1.23 appropriation is only available for the Minnesota share of project costs.

2.1 (d) Money appropriated in this subdivision is available until the project is completed or
2.2 abandoned subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.642.

2.3 Subd. 2. **Bond sale.** To provide the money appropriated in subdivision 1 from the bond
2.4 proceeds fund, the commissioner of management and budget shall sell and issue bonds of
2.5 the state in an amount up to \$160,000,000 in the manner, upon the terms, and with the effect
2.6 prescribed by Minnesota Statutes, sections 16A.631 to 16A.675, and by the Minnesota
2.7 Constitution, article XI, sections 4 to 7.

2.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.