

**SENATE**  
**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
**NINETIETH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 2074**

(SENATE AUTHORS: DZIEDZIC and Rest)

DATE  
03/13/2017

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1368

Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Transportation Finance and Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to transportation; providing for railroad and pipeline transportation incident  
1.3 preparedness, information availability, training, coordination, and inspections;  
1.4 modifying assessments; providing for data practices; making technical changes;  
1.5 requiring a report; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016, sections 13.6905, by adding  
1.6 a subdivision; 115E.042, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; 219.015; 299A.55; proposing  
1.7 coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 219.

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

1.9 **ARTICLE 1**

1.10 **LIFE SAFETY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE**

1.11 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 13.6905, is amended by adding a subdivision  
1.12 to read:

1.13 Subd. 34. Oil and other hazardous substances transportation data. (a) Certain data  
1.14 on oil and other hazardous substances transported by railroads are governed by section  
1.15 219.925, subdivision 7.

1.16 (b) Certain data on oil and other hazardous substances transportation incident review  
1.17 are governed by section 299A.55, subdivision 5.

1.18 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115E.042, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

1.19 Subd. 2. **Training.** (a) Each railroad must offer training to each fire department and  
1.20 each local organization for emergency management under section 12.25 having jurisdiction  
1.21 along the ~~route of unit trains~~ routes over which oil or other hazardous substances are  
1.22 transported. ~~Initial training under this subdivision must be offered to each fire department~~  
1.23 by June 30, 2016, and Refresher training must be offered to each fire department and local

2.1 organization for emergency management at least once every three years thereafter after  
 2.2 initial training under this subdivision.

2.3 (b) The training must address ~~the general hazards of oil and hazardous substances,~~  
 2.4 ~~techniques to assess hazards to the environment and to the safety of responders and the~~  
 2.5 ~~public, factors an incident commander must consider in determining whether to attempt to~~  
 2.6 ~~suppress a fire or to evacuate the public and emergency responders from an area, and other~~  
 2.7 ~~strategies for initial response by local emergency responders. The training must include~~  
 2.8 ~~suggested protocol or practices for local responders to safely accomplish these tasks~~ methods  
 2.9 to identify rail cars and hazardous substance contents, responder safety issues, rail response  
 2.10 tactics, public evacuation considerations, environmental contamination response, railroad  
 2.11 response personnel and resources coordination at an incident, and other protocols and  
 2.12 practices for safe initial local response.

2.13 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115E.042, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

2.14 Subd. 3. **Emergency response planning; coordination.** ~~Beginning June 30, 2015, (a)~~  
 2.15 Each railroad must communicate at least annually with each ~~county or city~~ emergency  
 2.16 manager, safety representatives of railroad employees governed by the Railway Labor Act,  
 2.17 and a senior fire department officer of each fire department having jurisdiction along the  
 2.18 ~~route of a unit train~~ routes over which oil or other hazardous substances are transported, in  
 2.19 order to:

2.20 (1) ensure coordination of emergency response activities between the railroad and local  
 2.21 responders;

2.22 (2) upon request, assist emergency managers to identify and assess local rail-specific  
 2.23 threats, hazards, and risks; and

2.24 (3) obtain information from emergency managers regarding specific local natural and  
 2.25 technical hazards and threats in the local area that may impact rail operations or public  
 2.26 safety.

2.27 (b) The coordination under paragraph (a), clauses (2) and (3), must include identification  
 2.28 of increased risks and potential special responses due to high population concentration,  
 2.29 critical local infrastructure, key facilities, significant venues, or sensitive natural  
 2.30 environments.

2.31 (c) The commissioner of public safety must compile and make available to railroads a  
 2.32 listing of emergency managers and fire chiefs, which must include contact information.

3.1 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115E.042, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

3.2 Subd. 4. **Response capabilities; time limits.** (a) Following confirmation of a discharge,  
3.3 a railroad must deliver and deploy sufficient equipment and trained personnel to (1) contain  
3.4 and recover discharged oil or hazardous substances, and ~~to~~ (2) protect the environment and  
3.5 assist local public safety officials.

3.6 (b) Within 15 minutes after local emergency responders arrive on the scene of a rail  
3.7 incident involving oil or hazardous substances, a railroad must assist the incident commander  
3.8 determine the nature of hazardous substances known to have been released and hazardous  
3.9 substances transported on the train by providing information that includes the chemical  
3.10 content of the hazardous substances, contact information for the shipper, and instructions  
3.11 for dealing with the release of the material. A railroad may provide information through the  
3.12 train orders on board the train, facsimile, or electronic transmission.

3.13 (c) Within one hour of confirmation of a discharge, a railroad must provide a qualified  
3.14 company employee representative to advise the incident commander, help assess the situation,  
3.15 initiate railroad response actions as needed, and provide advice and recommendations to  
3.16 the incident commander regarding the response. The employee representative may be made  
3.17 available by telephone, and must be authorized to deploy all necessary response resources  
3.18 of the railroad.

3.19 ~~(e)~~ (d) Within three hours of confirmation of a discharge, a railroad must be capable of  
3.20 delivering monitoring equipment and a trained operator to assist in protection of responder  
3.21 and public safety. A plan to ensure delivery of monitoring equipment and an operator to a  
3.22 discharge site must be provided each year to the commissioner of public safety.

3.23 ~~(d)~~ (e) Within three hours of confirmation of a discharge, a railroad must provide (1)  
3.24 qualified personnel at a discharge site to assess the discharge and to advise the incident  
3.25 commander, and (2) resources to assist the incident commander with ongoing public safety  
3.26 and scene stabilization.

3.27 ~~(e)~~ (f) A railroad must be capable of deploying containment boom from land across  
3.28 sewer outfalls, creeks, ditches, and other places where oil or hazardous substances may  
3.29 drain, in order to contain leaked material before it reaches those resources. The arrangement  
3.30 to provide containment boom and staff may be made by:

3.31 (1) training and caching equipment with local jurisdictions;

3.32 (2) training and caching equipment with a fire mutual-aid group;

3.33 (3) means of an industry cooperative or mutual-aid group;

4.1 (4) deployment of a contractor;

4.2 (5) deployment of a response organization under state contract; or

4.3 (6) other dependable means acceptable to the Pollution Control Agency.

4.4 ~~(f)~~ (g) Each arrangement under paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) must be confirmed each year. Each  
4.5 arrangement must be tested by drill at least once every five years.

4.6 ~~(g)~~ (h) Within eight hours of confirmation of a discharge, a railroad must be capable of  
4.7 delivering and deploying containment boom, boats, oil recovery equipment, trained staff,  
4.8 and all other materials needed to provide:

4.9 (1) on-site containment and recovery of a volume of oil equal to ten percent of the  
4.10 calculated worst case discharge at any location along the route; and

4.11 (2) protection of listed sensitive areas and potable water intakes within one mile of a  
4.12 discharge site and within eight hours of water travel time downstream in any river or stream  
4.13 that the right-of-way intersects.

4.14 ~~(h)~~ (i) Within 60 hours of confirmation of a discharge, a railroad must be capable of  
4.15 delivering and deploying additional containment boom, boats, oil recovery equipment,  
4.16 trained staff, and all other materials needed to provide containment and recovery of a worst  
4.17 case discharge and to protect listed sensitive areas and potable water intakes at any location  
4.18 along the route.

4.19 **Sec. 5. [219.925] INCIDENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE; PREPAREDNESS AND**  
4.20 **INFORMATION.**

4.21 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have  
4.22 the meanings given them.

4.23 (b) "Emergency manager" means the director of a local organization for emergency  
4.24 management under section 12.25.

4.25 (c) "Hazardous substance" means any material identified in the definition of hazardous  
4.26 substance under (1) section 115B.02, subdivision 8; or (2) Code of Federal Regulations,  
4.27 title 49, section 171.8.

4.28 (d) "Incident commander" means the official who has responsibility under National  
4.29 Incident Management System guidelines for all aspects of emergency response operations  
4.30 at an incident scene, including directing and controlling resources.

4.31 (e) "Oil" has the meaning given in section 115E.01, subdivision 8.

5.1 (f) "Rail carrier" means a railroad company that is:

5.2 (1) defined as a common carrier under section 218.011;

5.3 (2) classified by federal law or regulation as a Class I Railroad, Class I Rail Carrier,  
5.4 Class II Railroad, Class II Carrier, Class III Railroad, or Class III Carrier; and

5.5 (3) operating in this state.

5.6 Subd. 2. **Traffic review.** Within ten business days of receiving a written request, a rail  
5.7 carrier must provide a traffic review to the commissioner of public safety, a requesting  
5.8 emergency manager, or a fire chief having jurisdiction along the routes over which oil or  
5.9 other hazardous substances are transported. The traffic review under this subdivision must  
5.10 include information on the types and volumes of oil or other hazardous substances transported  
5.11 through the requester's jurisdiction during the prior calendar year.

5.12 Subd. 3. **Emergency response planning; information sharing.** Upon written request,  
5.13 a rail carrier must provide to the commissioner of public safety, an emergency manager, or  
5.14 a fire chief having jurisdiction along the routes over which oil or other hazardous substances  
5.15 are transported:

5.16 (1) a complete copy of prevention and response plans submitted under section 115E.042,  
5.17 subdivision 6; and

5.18 (2) a copy of the data and information, including risk assessment information, used to  
5.19 develop the rail carrier's route analysis as required under Code of Federal Regulations, title  
5.20 49, section 172.820, or successor requirements.

5.21 Subd. 4. **Emergency response planning; coordination meetings.** (a) Within 30 days  
5.22 of receiving a written request, a rail carrier must be available to meet with the commissioner  
5.23 of public safety, a requesting emergency manager, or a fire chief having jurisdiction along  
5.24 the routes over which oil or other hazardous substances are transported concerning emergency  
5.25 response planning and coordination.

5.26 (b) At a meeting held under this subdivision, a rail carrier must provide:

5.27 (1) a review of the rail carrier's emergency response planning and capability, including  
5.28 railroad response timelines and resources to provide (i) technical advice and  
5.29 recommendations, (ii) trained response personnel, (iii) specialized equipment, and (iv) any  
5.30 other available resources to support an incident commander who conducts a public safety  
5.31 emergency response under the National Incident Management System; and

6.1 (2) inventory information on emergency response involving oil or other hazardous  
6.2 substance, consisting of:

6.3 (i) equipment owned by the rail carrier, including equipment type and location;

6.4 (ii) the rail carrier's response personnel, including contact information and location; and

6.5 (iii) resources available to the rail carrier through contractual agreements.

6.6 Subd. 5. **Real-time emergency response information.** (a) The commissioner of public  
6.7 safety must, through the Minnesota Fusion Center, receive and disseminate emergency  
6.8 response information as provided under section 7302 of the FAST Act of 2015, Public Law  
6.9 114-94, and federal regulations adopted under that section.

6.10 (b) On and after July 1, 2017, all rail carriers subject to this section must collectively  
6.11 provide to emergency responders in an Internet-based format the information regarding  
6.12 transportation of oil or other hazardous substances that rail carriers provide through a wireless  
6.13 communication device application.

6.14 Subd. 6. **Public safety emergency response exercises.** (a) Each rail carrier must conduct  
6.15 one tabletop public safety emergency response exercise in each emergency management  
6.16 region where the rail carrier transports oil or other hazardous substances. The exercises  
6.17 must be conducted by July 1, 2018, and July 1 every two years thereafter.

6.18 (b) Each rail carrier must conduct one full-scale public safety emergency response  
6.19 exercise every four years.

6.20 (c) In an emergency management region where more than one rail carrier operates, the  
6.21 rail carriers may conduct the exercises jointly or may alternate among rail carriers to conduct  
6.22 the exercise.

6.23 (d) The rail carriers must conduct the exercises in full coordination with the commissioner  
6.24 of public safety, any interested emergency managers, and fire chiefs having jurisdiction  
6.25 within the applicable emergency management region along the routes over which oil or  
6.26 other hazardous substances are transported.

6.27 (e) To the extent feasible, the rail carriers must coordinate the exercises among each  
6.28 other and with exercises under section 115E.042, subdivision 5.

6.29 Subd. 7. **Transportation and response planning data.** (a) Any data provided under  
6.30 subdivisions 3 to 6 to an emergency manager, incident commander, emergency first  
6.31 responder, fire chief, or the commissioner of public safety are nonpublic data, as defined  
6.32 under section 13.02, subdivision 9.

7.1 (b) Any prevention and response plan data created under section 115E.042, subdivision  
 7.2 6, that is in the possession of an emergency manager, incident commander, emergency first  
 7.3 responder, or fire chief are nonpublic data, as defined under section 13.02, subdivision 9.  
 7.4 This paragraph does not apply to data in the possession of the commissioner of the Pollution  
 7.5 Control Agency.

7.6 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 299A.55, is amended to read:

7.7 **299A.55 RAILROAD AND PIPELINE SAFETY INCIDENT PREPAREDNESS;**  
 7.8 **OIL AND OTHER HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SUBSTANCES.**

7.9 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have  
 7.10 the meanings given them.

7.11 (b) "Applicable rail carrier" means a railroad company that is subject to an assessment  
 7.12 under section 219.015, subdivision 2.

7.13 (c) "Emergency manager" has the meaning given in section 219.925, subdivision 1.

7.14 (d) "Hazardous substance" has the meaning given in section ~~115B.02, subdivision 8~~  
 7.15 219.925, subdivision 1.

7.16 ~~(d)~~ (e) "Incident compelling a significant response" means an event involving rail carrier  
 7.17 or pipeline company operations and a derailment, collision, discharge, or other similar  
 7.18 activity resulting in applicable response actions performed by firefighters, peace officers,  
 7.19 incident commanders, emergency managers, or emergency first responders. For purposes  
 7.20 of this paragraph, "applicable response actions" consist of one or more of the following: a  
 7.21 request for mutual aid or special response resources, establishment of an exclusion zone,  
 7.22 an order for evacuation or shelter in place, or emergency notification to the general public.

7.23 (f) "Oil" has the meaning given in section 115E.01, subdivision 8.

7.24 ~~(e)~~ (g) "Pipeline company" means any individual, partnership, association, or public or  
 7.25 private corporation who owns and operates pipeline facilities and is required to show specific  
 7.26 preparedness under section 115E.03, subdivision 2.

7.27 (h) "Rail carrier" has the meaning given in section 219.925, subdivision 1.

7.28 Subd. 2. **Railroad and pipeline safety preparedness account.** (a) A railroad and pipeline  
 7.29 ~~safety preparedness~~ account is created in the special revenue fund. The account consists of  
 7.30 funds collected under subdivision 4 and funds donated, allotted, transferred, or otherwise  
 7.31 provided to the account.

8.1 (b) ~~\$104,000~~ \$300,000 is annually appropriated from the railroad and pipeline safety  
8.2 preparedness account to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency for environmental  
8.3 protection activities related to railroad discharge preparedness under chapter 115E.

8.4 (c) Following the appropriation in paragraph (b), the remaining money in the account  
8.5 is annually appropriated to the commissioner of public safety for the purposes specified in  
8.6 subdivision 3.

8.7 Subd. 3. **Allocation of funds.** (a) Subject to funding appropriated for this subdivision,  
8.8 the commissioner shall provide funds for training and response preparedness related to (1)  
8.9 derailments, discharge incidents, or spills involving trains carrying oil or other hazardous  
8.10 substances, and (2) pipeline discharge incidents or spills involving oil or other hazardous  
8.11 substances.

8.12 (b) The commissioner shall allocate available funds as follows:

8.13 (1) \$100,000 annually for emergency response teams; and

8.14 (2) the remaining amount to the Board of Firefighter Training and Education under  
8.15 section 299N.02 and the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

8.16 (c) Prior to making allocations under paragraph (b), the commissioner shall consult with  
8.17 the Fire Service Advisory Committee under section 299F.012, subdivision 2.

8.18 (d) The commissioner and the entities identified in paragraph (b), clause (2), shall  
8.19 prioritize uses of funds based on:

8.20 (1) ~~firefighter~~ training needs for firefighters, emergency managers, incident commanders,  
8.21 and emergency first responders;

8.22 (2) community risk from discharge incidents or spills;

8.23 (3) geographic balance; ~~and~~

8.24 (4) risks to the general public; and

8.25 (5) recommendations of the Fire Service Advisory Committee.

8.26 (e) The following are permissible uses of funds provided under this subdivision:

8.27 (1) training costs, which may include, but are not limited to, training curriculum, trainers,  
8.28 trainee overtime salary, other personnel overtime salary, and tuition;

8.29 (2) costs of gear and equipment related to hazardous materials readiness, response, and  
8.30 management, which may include, but are not limited to, original purchase, maintenance,  
8.31 and replacement;



- 9.1 (3) supplies related to the uses under clauses (1) and (2); ~~and~~
- 9.2 (4) emergency preparedness planning and coordination;
- 9.3 (5) emergency response team costs;
- 9.4 (6) public safety emergency response exercises under section 219.925, subdivision 6;
- 9.5 (7) post-incident review and analysis under subdivision 5, based on costs incurred to
- 9.6 state agencies and local units of government; and
- 9.7 (8) public education and outreach, including but not limited to:
- 9.8 (i) informing and engaging the public regarding hazards of derailments and discharge
- 9.9 incidents;
- 9.10 (ii) assisting the development of evacuation readiness;
- 9.11 (iii) undertaking public information campaigns; and
- 9.12 (iv) providing accurate information to the media on likelihood and consequences of
- 9.13 derailments and discharge incidents.

9.14 (f) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), clause (2), from funds in the railroad and pipeline

9.15 safety preparedness account provided for the purposes under this subdivision, the

9.16 commissioner may retain a balance in the account for budgeting in subsequent fiscal years.

9.17 Subd. 4. **Assessments.** (a) If the account balance in the railroad and pipeline preparedness

9.18 account is below \$..... at any point during a fiscal year, the commissioner of public safety

9.19 shall ~~annually~~ assess ~~\$2,500,000~~ to railroad and pipeline companies \$1,500,000 in the

9.20 subsequent fiscal year based on the formula specified in paragraph (b). By June 1 annually,

9.21 the commissioner must notify railroad and pipeline companies regarding the next fiscal

9.22 year's assessment. The commissioner shall deposit funds collected under this subdivision

9.23 in the railroad and pipeline ~~safety preparedness~~ account ~~under subdivision 2.~~

9.24 (b) The assessment for each railroad is 50 percent of the total annual assessment amount,

9.25 divided in equal proportion between applicable rail carriers based on route miles operated

9.26 in Minnesota. The assessment for each pipeline company is 50 percent of the total annual

9.27 assessment amount, divided in equal proportion between companies based on the yearly

9.28 aggregate gallons of oil and hazardous substance transported by pipeline in Minnesota.

9.29 ~~(c) The assessments under this subdivision expire July 1, 2017.~~ In addition to the amount

9.30 identified in paragraph (a), the commissioner must assess the rail carrier or pipeline company

9.31 involved in an incident compelling a significant response for all post-incident review and

9.32 analysis costs under subdivision 5 incurred by the state and local units of government. This

10.1 paragraph applies regardless of whether an assessment is imposed under paragraph (a) in a  
10.2 fiscal year.

10.3 Subd. 5. **Post-incident review and analysis; legislative report; data.** (a) After an  
10.4 incident compelling a significant response, or upon request of a fire chief or emergency  
10.5 manager after an incident, the commissioner must ensure a post-incident review and analysis  
10.6 is performed in a timely manner. The review and analysis must be undertaken under an  
10.7 agreement with an entity having relevant knowledge and experience that is fully independent  
10.8 of the state, any local units of government involved in the incident, rail carriers, and pipeline  
10.9 companies.

10.10 (b) The review and analysis process must include an after action review and must  
10.11 evaluate, at a minimum, processes occurring during the incident for emergency assessment,  
10.12 hazard operations, population protection, and incident management. The review and analysis  
10.13 must be designed to minimize duplication of topics and issues addressed in any federal  
10.14 review of the incident.

10.15 (c) By March 1 following any calendar year in which one or more post-incident reviews  
10.16 and analyses are performed, the commissioner must submit a legislative report to the chairs  
10.17 and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over  
10.18 transportation and public safety policy and finance. The report must: (1) provide a summary  
10.19 of the incidents; (2) identify findings, lessons learned, and process changes; and (3) make  
10.20 recommendations for legislative changes, if any.

10.21 (d) Except for the report under paragraph (c), any data under this subdivision are  
10.22 nonpublic data, as defined under section 13.02, subdivision 9.

10.23 **Sec. 7. REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

10.24 The revisor of statutes shall recodify Minnesota Statutes, section 115E.042, subdivision  
10.25 2, as Minnesota Statutes, section 219.925, subdivision 3, and Minnesota Statutes, section  
10.26 115E.042, subdivision 3, as Minnesota Statutes, section 219.925, subdivision 4. The revisor  
10.27 shall correct any cross-references made necessary by this recodification.

10.28 **Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

10.29 This article is effective the day following final enactment.

11.1

**ARTICLE 2**

11.2

**ENVIRONMENTAL PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE**

11.3 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115E.042, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

11.4 Subd. 5. ~~Railroad drills~~ **Environmental response exercises.** (a) Each railroad must  
 11.5 conduct ~~at least one~~ oil containment, recovery, and sensitive area protection ~~drill~~ exercises  
 11.6 as follows: (1) at least one tabletop exercise every year; and (2) at least one full-scale exercise  
 11.7 every three years. Each exercise must be at a location, date, and time and in the manner  
 11.8 chosen by the Pollution Control Agency, and attended by safety representatives of railroad  
 11.9 employees governed by the Railway Labor Act.

11.10 (b) To the extent feasible, the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency must  
 11.11 coordinate each exercise with exercises required by federal agencies.

11.12 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115E.042, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

11.13 Subd. 6. **Prevention and response plans; requirements, submission.** (a) ~~By June 30,~~  
 11.14 ~~2015,~~ A railroad shall submit the prevention and response plan ~~required under section~~  
 11.15 ~~115E.04, as necessary to comply with the requirements of this section,~~ to the commissioner  
 11.16 of the Pollution Control Agency on a form designated by the commissioner.

11.17 (b) ~~By June 30 of~~ Every third year following a plan submission under this subdivision,  
 11.18 or sooner as provided under section 115E.04, subdivision 2, a railroad must update and  
 11.19 resubmit the prevention and response plan to the commissioner.

11.20 Sec. 3. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

11.21 This article is effective the day following final enactment.

11.22

**ARTICLE 3**

11.23

**RAILROAD INSPECTIONS**

11.24 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 219.015, is amended to read:

11.25 **219.015 STATE RAIL SAFETY INSPECTOR INSPECTION PROGRAM.**

11.26 Subdivision 1. **Positions established; duties.** (a) The commissioner of transportation  
 11.27 shall establish three state rail safety inspector positions ~~in the Office of Freight and~~  
 11.28 ~~Commercial Vehicle Operations of the Minnesota Department of Transportation. On or~~  
 11.29 ~~after July 1, 2015,~~ and the commissioner may establish ~~a fourth~~ up to ten state rail safety  
 11.30 ~~inspector position~~ inspection program positions following consultation with railroad

12.1 companies. The commissioner shall apply to and enter into agreements with the Federal  
 12.2 Railroad Administration (FRA) of the United States Department of Transportation to  
 12.3 participate in the federal State Rail Safety Participation Program for training and certification  
 12.4 of an inspector under authority of United States Code, title 49, sections 20103, 20105,  
 12.5 20106, and 20113, and Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, part 212.

12.6 (b) A state rail safety inspector ~~shall~~ may inspect mainline track, secondary track, and  
 12.7 yard and industry track; inspect railroad right-of-way, including adjacent or intersecting  
 12.8 drainage, culverts, bridges, overhead structures, and traffic and other public crossings;  
 12.9 inspect yards and physical plants; inspect train equipment; review and enforce safety  
 12.10 requirements; review maintenance and repair records; and review railroad security measures.

12.11 (c) A state rail safety inspector may perform, but is not limited to, the duties described  
 12.12 in the federal State Rail Safety Participation Program. An inspector may train, be certified,  
 12.13 and participate in any of the federal State Rail Safety Participation Program disciplines,  
 12.14 including: track, signal and train control, motive power and equipment, operating practices  
 12.15 compliance, hazardous materials, and highway-rail grade crossings.

12.16 (d) To the extent delegated by the Federal Railroad Administration and authorized by  
 12.17 the commissioner, an inspector may issue citations for violations of this chapter, or to ensure  
 12.18 railroad employee and public safety and welfare.

12.19 Subd. 2. **Railroad company assessment; account; appropriation.** (a) As provided in  
 12.20 this subdivision, the commissioner shall annually assess railroad companies that are (1)  
 12.21 defined as common carriers under section 218.011; (2) classified by federal law or regulation  
 12.22 as Class I Railroads, Class I Rail Carriers, Class II Railroads, or Class II Carriers; and (3)  
 12.23 operating in this state.

12.24 (b) The assessment must be ~~by a division of~~ calculated to allocate state rail safety  
 12.25 ~~inspector inspection~~ program costs ~~in equal proportion between~~ proportionally among  
 12.26 carriers based on route miles operated in Minnesota, ~~assessed in equal amounts for 365 days~~  
 12.27 ~~of the calendar year~~ at the time of assessment. The commissioner ~~shall assess~~ must include  
 12.28 in the assessment calculation all program or additional position start-up or re-establishment  
 12.29 costs; all ~~related~~ costs of ~~initiating~~ the state rail safety ~~inspector inspection~~ program,  
 12.30 including but not limited to inspection, administration, supervision, travel, equipment, and  
 12.31 training; and costs of ongoing state rail inspector duties.

12.32 (c) The assessments collected under this subdivision must be deposited in a ~~special~~  
 12.33 ~~account in the special revenue fund, to be known as the~~ state rail safety inspection account,  
 12.34 which is established in the special revenue fund. The account consists of funds provided by

13.1 this subdivision, and any other money donated, allotted, transferred, or otherwise provided  
13.2 to the account. Money in the account is appropriated to the commissioner for the  
13.3 establishment and ongoing responsibilities of the state rail safety ~~inspector~~ inspection  
13.4 program.

13.5 Subd. 3. **Work site safety coaching program.** The commissioner may exempt a common  
13.6 carrier not federally classified as Class I from violations for a period of up to two years if  
13.7 the common carrier applies for participation in a work site safety coaching program, such  
13.8 as the "MNSharp" program administered by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry,  
13.9 and the commissioner determines such participation to be preferred enforcement for safety  
13.10 or security violations.

13.11 Subd. 4. **Appeal.** Any person aggrieved by an assessment levied under this section may  
13.12 appeal within 90 days any assessment, violation, or administrative penalty to the Office of  
13.13 Administrative Hearings, with further appeal and review by the district court.

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

APPENDIX  
Article locations in 17-3867

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