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State of Minnesota

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. **246**

- 01/11/2023 Authored by Hanson, J.; Elkins; Hornstein; Tabke; Liebling and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Sustainable Infrastructure Policy
- 01/30/2023 Adoption of Report: Re-referred to the Committee on Transportation Finance and Policy
- 02/20/2023 Adoption of Report: Placed on the General Register
Read for the Second Time

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to transit; repealing certain moratoriums related to commuter rail and

1.3 intercity passenger rail; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 473.1467;

1.4 Laws 2002, chapter 393, section 85.

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

1.6 Section 1. **REPEALER.**

1.7 (a) Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 473.1467, is repealed.

1.8 (b) Laws 2002, chapter 393, section 85, is repealed.

473.1467 NO SPENDING FOR CERTAIN RAIL PROJECTS.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the council must not spend or use any money for any costs related to studying the feasibility of, planning for, designing, engineering, acquiring property or constructing facilities for or related to, or development or operation of intercity or interregional passenger rail facilities or operations between the city of Rochester or locations in its metropolitan area and any location in the metropolitan area, as defined in section 473.121, subdivision 2.

(b) The restrictions under this section do not apply to:

(1) funds the council obtains from contributions, grants, or other voluntary payments made by nongovernmental entities from private sources; or

(2) expenditures made after enactment of a law that explicitly adds the intercity or interregional passenger rail project for which the expenditures are made to the statewide freight and passenger rail plan under section 174.03, subdivision 1b.

Laws 2002, chapter 393, section 85

Sec. 85. **DAN PATCH COMMUTER RAIL LINE; PROHIBITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For purposes of this section, "Dan Patch commuter rail line" means the commuter rail line between Northfield and Minneapolis identified in the metropolitan council's transit 2020 master plan as the Dan Patch line.

Subd. 2. **Metropolitan council; prohibitions.** The metropolitan council must not take any action or spend any money for study, planning, preliminary engineering, final design, or construction for the Dan Patch commuter rail line. The council must remove all references, other than references for historical purposes, to the Dan Patch commuter rail line from any future revisions to the council's transportation development guide and the council's regional transit master plan.

Subd. 3. **Commissioner of transportation.** The commissioner of transportation must not expend any money for study, planning, preliminary engineering, final design, or construction for the Dan Patch commuter rail line. The commissioner must remove all references, other than references for historical purposes, to the Dan Patch commuter rail line from any future revisions to the state transportation plan and the commissioner's commuter rail system plan.

Subd. 4. **Regional rail authorities.** No regional rail authority may expend any money for study, planning, preliminary engineering, final design, or construction for the Dan Patch commuter rail line.