

## CHAPTER 398A

## REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITIES ACT

398A.02 Purpose.

398A.04 Powers.

**398A.02 PURPOSE.**

The purpose of the regional railroad authorities act is to provide a means whereby one or more municipalities, with state and federal aids as may be available, may provide for the preservation and improvement of local rail service for agriculture, industry, or passenger traffic and provide for the preservation of abandoned rail right-of-way for future transportation uses, when determined to be practicable and necessary for the public welfare, particularly in the case of abandonment of local rail lines.

**History:** 1989 c 299 s 10

**398A.04 POWERS.**

*[For text of subds 1 to 7, see M.S.1988]*

Subd. 8. **Taxation.** Before deciding to exercise the power to tax, the authority shall give six weeks published notice in all municipalities in the region. If a number of voters in the region equal to five percent of those who voted for candidates for governor at the last gubernatorial election present a petition within nine weeks of the first published notice to the secretary of state requesting that the matter be submitted to popular vote, it shall be submitted at the next general election. The question prepared shall be:

“Shall the regional rail authority have the power to impose a property tax?”

Yes .....

No .....

If a majority of those voting on the question approve or if no petition is presented within the prescribed time the authority may levy a tax at any annual rate not exceeding 0.04835 percent of market value of all taxable property situated within the municipality or municipalities named in its organization resolution. Its recording officer shall file in the office of the county auditor of each county in which territory under the jurisdiction of the authority is located a certified copy of the board of commissioners' resolution levying the tax, and each county auditor shall assess and extend upon the tax rolls of each municipality named in the organization resolution the portion of the tax that bears the same ratio to the whole amount that the net tax capacity of taxable property in that municipality bears to the net tax capacity of taxable property in all municipalities named in the organization resolution. Collections of the tax shall be remitted by each county treasurer to the treasurer of the authority.

Subd. 9. **Agreements.** The authority may enter into joint powers agreements under section 471.59 or other agreements with the municipality or municipalities named in the organization agreement, or with other municipalities situated in the counties named in the resolution, respecting the matters referred to in section 398A.06 or with another authority about any matter subject to this chapter.

*[For text of subds 10 and 11, see M.S.1988]*

**History:** 1989 c 277 art 4 s 43; 1989 c 329 art 13 s 20; 1989 c 339 s 2