

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

SENATE BILL 389

By: Crutchfield

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to railroads; appropriating certain amount of funding to continue the Oklahoma Rail Passenger Service; providing information on the Heartland Flyer; directing the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to seek federal funds for certain purpose; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 340 of Title 66, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

There is hereby appropriated to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation from any monies not otherwise appropriated from the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury for the fiscal year ending in 2006, the sum of Three Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,900,000.00) for the purpose of continuing Oklahoma Rail Passenger Service on the Heartland Flyer after the current contract expires on September 30, 2005. The Heartland Flyer has operated since June 15, 1999, and is rated Amtrak's number one train. It has carried over 300,000 passengers and its ridership has grown by twenty percent (20%). This funding request will be used to continue the existing service, but additional funds are required to establish a passenger railroad connection to the North. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation is hereby directed by the Legislature to seek additional federal funding on behalf of this state for expansion of the Oklahoma Rail Passenger Service.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

50-1-453

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