

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 SENATE BILL 1061

By: Sparks

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to transportation; creating the Joint
8 Committee on Oklahoma Rail Service; stating
9 membership; providing for meetings; authorizing
10 administrative assistance; stating purpose; requiring
11 public meetings; providing for travel reimbursement;
12 providing for certain reports; providing for
13 noncodification; and declaring an emergency.

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

15 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
16 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

17 A. There is hereby created a Joint Committee on Oklahoma Rail
18 Service which shall consist of the members of the Senate and House
19 Transportation Committees. The Joint Committee shall meet at the
20 call of the chairs of the Senate and House Transportation Committees
21 who shall serve as co-chairs of the Joint Committee and jointly
22 determine a meeting schedule for the Joint Committee on Rail
23 Service. The Joint Committee may request administrative assistance
24 from any appropriate state agency as it deems necessary.

1 B. The Joint Committee may study the following, but shall not
2 be limited to:

3 1. The status of the current rail infrastructure and any
4 proposed passenger rail expansion;

5 2. The infrastructure needs of freight rail service to enhance
6 economic development opportunities and improve service for existing
7 state industries;

8 3. The cost of double tracking to avoid use of busy freight
9 rail tracks by passenger and commuter rails in areas of high traffic
10 density;

11 4. Potential revenue sources to finance the enhancement of both
12 passenger and freight rail services;

13 5. Encouraging state universities to assist in providing fiscal
14 impact studies for existing and expansion of both passenger and
15 freight rail service;

16 6. Revisiting previous studies of potential high-speed rail
17 service between Oklahoma City and Tulsa; and

18 7. Seeking input from municipalities and determine their
19 willingness to participate financially in constructing rail
20 infrastructure.

21 C. In the performance of their duties, the Joint Committee may
22 seek input and information from any public or private entity. All
23 meetings of the Joint Committee shall be public and should strive to
24 encourage public participation from all interested persons.

1 D. Members serving on the Joint Committee shall be eligible for
2 travel reimbursement in accordance with the provisions of Section
3 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

4 E. The Joint Committee may issue any reports it deems
5 appropriate and deliver such reports to the Governor, the President
6 Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
7 Representatives. Activities of the Joint Committee shall terminate
8 no later than November 1, 2010.

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

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