

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 1686

6 By: Morrissette

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to railroads; creating the Eastern
9 Flyer Passenger Rail Development Task Force;
10 providing purpose; providing for appointment of
11 members; requiring organizational meeting; providing
12 for task force chair, vacancies, quorum and meetings;
13 providing for travel reimbursement and staff
14 assistance; requiring Department of Transportation to
15 compile certain data; requiring task force to submit
16 final report; providing for expiration of task force;
17 providing for codification; and declaring an
18 emergency.

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

20 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
21 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 323.1 of Title 66, unless there
22 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

23 A. There is hereby created the Eastern Flyer Passenger Rail
24 Development Task Force. The purpose of the task force is to study
and develop a comprehensive plan for expanding conventional
passenger rail service as well as high speed passenger rail service
from Tulsa to Oklahoma City via public-private partnership formulas

1 that include Department of Transportation grants and state funding
2 allocations in conjunction with private asset contribution. Such
3 review shall include, but not be limited to, any previous national,
4 state or local public or private study of this project in any form.

5 B. The Eastern Flyer Passenger Rail Development Task Force
6 shall be composed of the following seventeen (17) members:

7 1. The Governor or designee;

8 2. The Lieutenant Governor or designee;

9 3. Two members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives
10 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

11 4. Two members of the Oklahoma State Senate appointed by the
12 President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

13 5. The Director of the Department of Transportation or
14 designee;

15 6. The Director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce or
16 designee;

17 7. The Director of the Corporation Commission or designee;

18 8. The Executive Director of the Department of Environmental
19 Quality or designee;

20 9. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Tourism and
21 Recreation Department or designee;

22 10. Members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
23 Representatives as follows:

24

1 a. one citizen residing in and representing the Tulsa
2 Metropolitan Statistical Area as defined by the U.S.
3 Census Bureau,

4 b. one citizen residing in and representing the Oklahoma
5 City Metropolitan Statistical Area as defined by the
6 U.S. Census Bureau, and

7 c. one citizen residing in and representing the area
8 between Oklahoma City and Tulsa; and

9 11. Members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
10 Senate as follows:

11 a. one citizen residing in and representing the Tulsa
12 Metropolitan Statistical Area as defined by the U.S.
13 Census Bureau,

14 b. one citizen residing in and representing the Oklahoma
15 City Metropolitan Statistical Area as defined by the
16 U.S. Census Bureau, and

17 c. one citizen residing in and representing the area
18 between Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

19 C. The task force shall conduct an organizational meeting no
20 later than ninety (90) days after the sine die adjournment of the
21 1st Regular Session of the 53rd Oklahoma Legislature.

22 D. The chair of the task force shall be chosen by a majority
23 vote of the members of the task force present at the organizational
24 meeting required by subsection C of this section.

1 E. Any vacancy in the appointments made pursuant to paragraphs
2 10 and 11 of subsection B of this section shall be filled in the
3 same manner as the original appointments.

4 F. A majority of the members of the task force shall constitute
5 a quorum for the transaction of business. Each member shall be
6 entitled to one vote on the task force. Any official action of the
7 task force must have a majority of the votes of the members present.

8 G. Each member of the task force shall serve without
9 compensation. Legislative members of the task force shall receive
10 reimbursement for travel expenses in accordance with Section 456 of
11 Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes and nonlegislative members of the
12 task force shall receive reimbursement for travel expenses in
13 accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

14 H. Staff support for the task force shall be provided by the
15 Department of Transportation. Entities of state government having
16 information that would be helpful to the task force shall provide
17 such assistance and information to the task force as may be
18 required.

19 I. The Department of Transportation is directed to compile data
20 the Department of Transportation possesses regarding the purpose of
21 this task force. The data shall include, but not be limited to, any
22 information, reports, studies or research that might assist in
23 fulfilling the purpose of the task force. The Department of
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1 Transportation shall compile this data and report to the task force
2 on or before October 1, 2011.

3 J. The task force shall submit a final report to the Governor,
4 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House
5 of Representatives on or before December 31, 2012, regarding the
6 findings and recommendations of the task force.

7 K. The task force shall cease to have any authority to take any
8 official action after January 1, 2013, and shall be dissolved by
9 operation of law on February 1, 2013.

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

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