

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 54th Legislature (2014)

4 HOUSE CONCURRENT
5 RESOLUTION 1027

By: Joyner

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8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Concurrent Resolution outlining the value of and
10 desire to maintain ownership of state-owned rail
11 lines; providing for legislative approval of sales;
12 providing for retention of rail infrastructure;
13 resolving statutes be observed; and directing
14 distribution.

15 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma House of Representatives and Senate wisely
16 passed legislation to acquire abandoned rail infrastructure for the
17 economic security and growth of freight and passenger transportation
18 services for the benefit of the public, businesses and communities
19 along those rail lines; and

20 WHEREAS, as of 2014, the elected city councils, at the urging of
21 Oklahoma residents, including the Oklahoma City City Council, Tulsa
22 City Council, and the Norman, Sapulpa and Bristow City Councils,
23 representing approximately two-thirds of the state's population,
24 have unanimously passed 9-0 resolutions urging immediate withdrawal
 from any sale process not mandated in statute and adoption of the

1 no-sale option directly related to the Sooner Subdivision Line and
2 all other state-owned lines currently not under a binding lease-
3 purchase agreement, and to immediate withdrawal from any and all
4 other actions to sell all other state-owned rail properties. These
5 resolutions, directed to all other entities of government including
6 the office of the Governor, the Oklahoma Department of
7 Transportation Executive Director Michael Patterson, Secretary of
8 Transportation Gary Ridley, members of the Oklahoma Transportation
9 Commission, Secretary of State Chris Benge, Secretary of Agriculture
10 Jim Reese, Secretary of Commerce and Tourism Larry Parman, and
11 Secretary of Energy and Environment Michael Teague, urged compliance
12 with the will of the people of Oklahoma and compliance with the
13 statutory option of no sale of state-owned rail properties and that
14 future lease-purchase agreements of state-owned rail properties
15 considered between private entities and the Oklahoma Department of
16 Transportation be consummated only after approval by the vote of the
17 Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma State Senate; and

18 WHEREAS, state-owned rail properties are for the benefit of all
19 citizens and businesses for their economic security and growth; for
20 economical shipment of farm goods, manufactured products, and raw
21 materials; and for current use and future passenger transportation
22 needs.

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1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 54TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
3 CONCURRING THEREIN:

4 THAT the Oklahoma-owned rail lines will not be subject to proper
5 sale without vetting by the Legislature of Oklahoma.

6 THAT the State of Oklahoma rail infrastructure shall be retained
7 under appropriate lease agreements for the benefit of all Oklahoma
8 businesses and shippers.

9 THAT the statutes of Oklahoma hereby be observed, specifically
10 the right of no sale of state-owned rail assets.

11 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Governor
12 and each member of the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation.

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14 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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