

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 1027

By: Joyner

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7 AS INTRODUCED

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

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

19 WHEREAS, as of 2014, the elected city councils, at the urging of
20 Oklahoma residents, including the Oklahoma City City Council, Tulsa
21 City Council, and the Norman, Sapulpa and Bristow City Councils,
22 representing approximately two-thirds of the state's population,
23 have unanimously passed 9-0 resolutions urging immediate withdrawal
24 from any sale process not mandated in statute and adoption of the
no-sale option directly related to the Sooner Subdivision Line and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

54-2-10511 JM 03/06/14