

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 HOUSE BILL 1077

By: Morrissette

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to railroads; requiring certain
8 reports by the Department of Transportation and the
9 Interstate Midwest Regional Passenger Rail Compact;
10 specifying content of reports; requiring delivery of
11 reports to certain officials; requiring periodic
12 updating of reports; requiring certain requests for
13 proposals; facilitating unbundling of present
14 passenger rail service contracts; providing for
15 codification; providing an effective date; and
16 declaring an emergency.

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

18 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 324.1 of Title 66, unless there
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 A. The Department of Transportation shall produce an Oklahoma
22 Tourism and Passenger Rail Act Investment Report.

23 B. The report shall be submitted to the President Pro Tempore
24 of the State Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
the Senate Transportation Committee Chairman; the House of
Representatives Transportation Committee Chairman; and the mayors
and city councils of Tulsa, Sapulpa, Bristow, Stroud, Chandler,

1 Jones, Edmond, Oklahoma City, Norman, Purcell, Pauls Valley and
2 Ardmore, Oklahoma by December 1, 2015.

3 C. The report shall thereafter be updated annually and released
4 on July 1 of each year beginning July 1, 2016.

5 D. The report shall include:

6 1. Department of Transportation activity between the dates of
7 July 1, 1996, and October 1, 2015, to fulfill obligations of Section
8 322 of Title 66 of the Oklahoma Statutes and specifically to restore
9 passenger rail service linking stations in Oklahoma and Tulsa
10 Counties with other primary points in the national railroad
11 passenger system;

12 2. Itemized transaction statements for the Oklahoma Tourism and
13 Passenger Rail Revolving Fund for activity between July 1, 1996, and
14 October 1, 2015;

15 3. In conjunction with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, a
16 summary of economic activity in the communities of Oklahoma City,
17 Norman, Purcell, Pauls Valley and Ardmore, Oklahoma associated with
18 the Texas Transportation Institute Study, "Measuring the Benefits of
19 Intercity Passenger Rail Service: A Study of the Heartland Flyer
20 Corridor", dated March 2010, as commissioned by the Department of
21 Transportation;

22 4. Historical ridership statistics, by station, by month, for
23 the Heartland Flyer passenger rail service provided by the National
24 Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) for Guthrie, Oklahoma City,

1 Norman, Purcell, Pauls Valley and Ardmore, Oklahoma; and for
2 Gainesville, Fort Worth and Dallas, Texas, between June 14, 1999,
3 and October 1, 2015; and

4 5. A summary of activities and achievements of the Interstate
5 Midwest Regional Passenger Rail Compact from April 7, 1999, to July
6 1, 2015, pursuant to activities required in Sections 327 through 334
7 of Title 66 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

8 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
9 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 328.1 of Title 66, unless there
10 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

11 A. The Commission created pursuant to Section 327 of Title 66
12 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall:

13 1. Develop and issue requests for proposal due August 1, 2015,
14 in conjunction with the Commission and Commission partners
15 identified in Section 326 of Title 66 of the Oklahoma Statutes, the
16 "Interstate Midwest Regional Passenger Rail Compact", and in
17 accordance with Sections 327 through 334 of Title 66 of the Oklahoma
18 Statutes;

19 2. Facilitate activities within the Commission to unbundle the
20 present passenger rail service contract for the Heartland Flyer.
21 Specific and separate requests for proposal shall be issued for, but
22 not limited to:

- 23 a. diesel electric or alternatively powered locomotives,
- 24 b. rolling stock and other equipment rentals,

- c. equipment servicing,
- d. fuel suppliers, including alternative fuels,
- e. commissary providers,
- f. staffing,
- g. marketing,
- h. reservation agents, and
- i. other provisions as deemed appropriate;

3. Seek partners to reduce cost;

4. Seek partners to increase onboard service quality; and

5. Seek, with regard to Interstate Midwest Regional Passenger Rail Compact, in-state providers when available.

B. The Department of Transportation and Oklahoma representatives of the Interstate Midwest Regional Passenger Rail Compact Commission shall produce an annual Oklahoma Tourism and Passenger Rail Act Improvement Report.

1. The first report shall be provided to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Senate Transportation Committee Chairman; the House of Representatives Transportation Committee Chairman; and the mayors and city councils of Tulsa, Sapulpa, Bristow, Stroud, Chandler, Jones, Edmond, Oklahoma City, Norman, Purcell, Pauls Valley and Ardmore, Oklahoma by December 1, 2015.

2. The December 1, 2015, report shall include:

- a. the results of the request for proposal process,

- b. a proposed service-expansion cost-efficiency metric and improvement objective expressed in terms of passenger miles per appropriated dollar,
- c. a proposed service-frequency cost-efficiency metric and improvement objective expressed in terms of passenger miles per appropriated dollar,
- d. an economic impact statement and improvement objective expressed in terms of related community spending per appropriated dollar, and
- e. proposals for the development of public-private partnerships.

3. The report shall be updated annually through production of an appendix.

4. The appendix shall be released on July 1, 2016, and each subsequent July 1 thereafter.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2015.

SECTION 4. 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.

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