

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the High  
5 Speed Railway Commission Act.

6 Section 5. Commission created; membership.

7 (a) There is created the High Speed Railway Commission to  
8 carry out the duties set forth in Section 10.

9 (b) The Commission shall be composed of the following  
10 members:

11 (1) The Governor or his or her designee.

12 (2) The President of the Senate or his or her designee.

13 (3) The Minority Leader of the Senate or his or her  
14 designee.

15 (4) The Speaker of the House or his or her designee.

16 (5) The Minority Leader of the House or his or her  
17 designee.

18 (6) The Secretary of Transportation or his or her  
19 designee.

20 (7) The Chairperson of the Illinois State Toll Highway  
21 Authority or his or her designee.

22 (8) The Chairperson of the Illinois Commerce  
23 Commission or his or her designee.

1           (9) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Metra  
2           or his or her designee.

3           (10) The Mayor of the City of Chicago or his or her  
4           designee.

5           (11) A representative of a labor organization  
6           representing rail workers.

7           (12) A representative of a trade organization related  
8           to the rail industry.

9           (13) A representative of the Metropolitan Mayors and  
10          Managers Association.

11          (14) A representative from the Illinois Railroad  
12          Association.

13          (15) A representative from the University of Illinois  
14          System.

15          (16) A representative from the Municipal Planning  
16          Organization.

17          (17) A representative of the Illinois Municipal  
18          League.

19          (18) A representative of the Champaign-Urbana Mass  
20          Transit District.

21          (c) The Chairperson of the Commission shall be elected from  
22          the Commission's membership by a simple majority vote of the  
23          total membership of the Commission. The Vice-Chairperson of the  
24          Commission shall be elected from the Commission's membership by  
25          a simple majority vote of the total membership of the  
26          Commission.

1           (d) The Governor, President of the Senate, Minority Leader  
2 of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and  
3 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives shall make  
4 their initial appointments to the Commission by January 1,  
5 2020.

6           (e) Vacancies in Commission membership shall be filled in  
7 the same manner as initial appointments.

8           (f) Total membership of the Commission consists of the  
9 number of members serving on the Commission, not including any  
10 vacant positions. A quorum consists of a simple majority of  
11 total membership and shall be sufficient to conduct the  
12 business of the Commission, unless stipulated otherwise in the  
13 bylaws of the Commission.

14           (g) The Commission shall meet at least quarterly.

15           Section 10. Duties of Commission. The Commission created by  
16 Section 5 shall create a statewide plan for a high-speed rail  
17 line and feeder network connecting St. Louis, Missouri and  
18 Chicago, Illinois that includes current existing Amtrak and  
19 Metra services, connects the cities of Rockford, Moline,  
20 Peoria, and Decatur, and uses inter-city bus service to  
21 coordinate with the rail line. The Commission shall conduct a  
22 ridership study and shall make findings and recommendations  
23 concerning a governance structure, the frequency of service,  
24 and implementation of the plan. The Commission shall report to  
25 the General Assembly and the Governor no later than December 31

1 of each year.

2 Section 15. Administrative support. The Department of  
3 Transportation shall provide administrative and other support  
4 to the Commission.

5 Section 20. Repeal. This Act is repealed on January 1,  
6 2025.

7 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
8 becoming law.