



Filed: 11/29/2010

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LRB096 17504 RLJ 43916 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2571

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 2571 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Illinois and Midwest High-Speed Rail Commission Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

7 "Commission" means the Illinois and Midwest High-Speed
8 Rail Commission.

9 "High-speed rail" means a system of new electrified tracks
10 designed primarily for trains capable of traveling at speeds in
11 excess of 150 miles per hour.

12 Section 10. Composition of the Commission.

13 (a) The Commission shall be composed of 19 members as
14 follows:

15 (1) 12 public members appointed by the Governor; and

1 (2) 7 ex-officio members as follows:

2 (A) the Illinois Secretary of Transportation;

3 (B) the Director of Commerce and Economic
4 Opportunity;

5 (C) the Executive Director of the Illinois State
6 Toll Highway Authority;

7 (D) a member of the House of Representatives
8 appointed by the Speaker of the House of
9 Representatives;

10 (E) a member of the House of Representatives
11 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
12 Representatives;

13 (F) a member of the Senate appointed by the
14 President of the Senate; and

15 (G) a member of the Senate appointed by the
16 Minority Leader of the Senate.

17 (b) A person appointed as a public member of the Commission
18 must be a resident of this State. Public members of the
19 Commission must include the following: (i) local elected
20 officials who have expressed interest in high-speed rail; (ii)
21 former elected officials with transportation policy expertise;
22 (iii) individuals with professional expertise in long-term
23 financing of infrastructure; and (iv) individuals with
24 expertise in transportation or railroad infrastructure
25 projects. The appointed members shall reflect the geographic
26 diversity of the State and shall include representation from

1 all regions of the State.

2 (c) Commission members shall be appointed within 45 days
3 after the effective date of this Act.

4 (d) The Governor shall designate one public member of the
5 Commission to serve as the chair of the Commission and one
6 public member to serve as the vice-chair of the Commission.

7 Section 15. Ex-officio members; eligibility; designation
8 of representative.

9 (a) An ex-officio member of the Commission vacates the
10 person's position on the Commission if the person ceases to
11 hold the position that qualifies the person for service on the
12 Commission.

13 (b) An ex-officio member may designate a representative to
14 serve on the Commission in the member's absence. A
15 representative designated under this subsection by the
16 Illinois Secretary of Transportation, the Director of Commerce
17 and Economic Opportunity, or the Executive Director of the
18 Illinois State Toll Highway Authority must be an officer or
19 employee of the State agency that employs the ex-officio
20 member.

21 Section 20. Compensation; expenses.

22 (a) A public member of the Commission is not entitled to
23 compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for the travel
24 expenses incurred by the member while transacting Commission

1 business.

2 (b) An ex-officio member's service on the Commission is an
3 additional duty of the underlying position that qualifies the
4 member for service on the Commission. The entitlement of an
5 ex-officio member to compensation or to reimbursement for
6 travel expenses incurred while transacting Commission business
7 is governed by the law that applies to the member's service in
8 that underlying position, and any payment to the member for
9 either purpose must be made from an appropriation that may be
10 used for the purpose and is available to the State agency that
11 the member serves in that underlying position.

12 Section 25. Meetings; quorum.

13 (a) The Commission shall meet at least monthly at the times
14 and places in this State that the chair designates until April
15 2011 and at least quarterly thereafter.

16 (b) Members of the Commission may participate in Commission
17 meetings by teleconference or video conference.

18 (c) A majority of the members of the Commission constitute
19 a quorum for transacting Commission business.

20 Section 30. General powers and duties of the Commission.

21 (a) The Commission shall:

22 (1) Prepare and issue a report to the Governor, the
23 General Assembly, and the public recommending the best
24 governmental structure for a public-private partnership to

1 design, build, operate, maintain, and finance a high-speed
2 rail system for Illinois and the Midwest. The report must
3 include specific recommendations for legislation, if
4 statutory change is required, or specific administrative
5 regulations, if regulatory change is required, to
6 implement the recommended high-speed rail system. The
7 report must include recommended sources for the funding of
8 a high-speed rail system including private sources of
9 capital and revenue bonds. The report must contain
10 recommendations for integrating the high-speed rail system
11 into existing and planned Amtrak expansions, airports, and
12 public transportation systems. The report must include
13 recommendations for federal, State, and local actions for
14 the development and implementation of a high-speed rail
15 system. The report must be issued by September 20, 2011.

16 (2) Prepare a follow-up report that details the status
17 of recommendations issued by the Commission and any revised
18 and updated recommendations based on further public and
19 stakeholder input. The follow-up report must be issued by
20 August 1, 2012.

21 (3) Develop a process to receive public and stakeholder
22 input on opinions and proposals for building, designing,
23 maintaining, operating, and financing a high-speed rail
24 system for Illinois and the Midwest. The process must
25 include the solicitation and receipt of formal expressions
26 of interest and other testimony from global high-speed rail

1 operators including without limitation Amtrak.

2 (4) Solicit and receive formal testimony, both written
3 and oral, from representatives of the other states in the
4 Midwest including without limitation representatives from
5 units of local government.

6 (5) Work collaboratively with the Department of
7 Transportation on any planning projects for high-speed
8 rail administered by the Department to comply with federal
9 high-speed rail requirements including without limitation
10 the solicitation of public input and comments.

11 (b) In implementing subsection (a), the Commission must
12 consult with and receive testimony from global high-speed rail
13 operators including without limitation Amtrak.

14 (c) Nothing in this Act shall preclude the Department of
15 Transportation from planning for high-speed rail.

16 Section 35. Funding. The Illinois Department of
17 Transportation may provide staff and other support to the
18 Commission from money available to the Department that may be
19 used for this purpose. The General Assembly may also
20 specifically appropriate money to the Department to provide
21 staff and other support to the Commission.

22 The Commission may accept monetary gifts and grants from
23 any public or private source. The Commission may also accept
24 in-kind gifts.

1 Section 95. Repeal. This Act is repealed on January 1,
2 2014.

3 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
4 becoming law.".