



2013 SENATE BILL 672

March 10, 2014 – Introduced by Senators MILLER, HARRIS, SCHULTZ, LEHMAN and T. CULLEN, cosponsored by Representatives SARGENT, HULSEY, GENRICH, WRIGHT, HEBL, BERCEAU, KAHL, SHANKLAND and WACHS. Referred to Committee on Transportation, Public Safety, and Veterans and Military Affairs.

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 85.057 of the statutes; **relating to:** requiring the Department
2 of Transportation to prepare a state rail plan.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to biennially prepare and transmit to the legislature, and to post on DOT's Internet site, a state rail plan. The plan must provide a detailed review of existing passenger rail service needs and capabilities in this state as well as projected needs and capabilities for the following ten-year period. The plan must also provide a detailed review of existing and projected funding levels and sources for passenger rail service. Among its contents, the plan must include a plan or proposal to accomplish passenger rail service over specified routes.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 85.057 of the statutes is created to read:
4 **85.057 State rail plan.** (1) No later than July 1, 2014, the department shall
5 prepare and transmit to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature

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1 under s. 13.172 (3), and post on the department's Internet site, a state rail plan. The
2 plan shall provide a detailed review of existing passenger rail service needs and
3 capabilities in this state as well as projected needs and capabilities for the following
4 10-year period. The plan shall also provide a detailed review of existing and
5 projected funding levels and sources for passenger rail service.

6 (2) After July 1, 2014, the department shall update the state rail plan under
7 sub. (1) biennially. No later than July 1 of each even-numbered year, the department
8 shall transmit the updated plan to the appropriate standing committees of the
9 legislature under s. 13.172 (3) and post the updated plan on the department's
10 Internet site.

11 (3) (a) Each state rail plan under sub. (1) or (2) shall include a plan or proposal
12 to accomplish all of the following:

13 1. The addition of a second train through Wisconsin providing daily passenger
14 rail service from Chicago to Minneapolis.

15 2. The addition of passenger rail service from Chicago to Madison through
16 Watertown or Janesville.

17 3. The addition of passenger rail service from Minneapolis to the Eau
18 Claire-Chippewa Falls metropolitan area.

19 4. The addition of passenger rail service from Milwaukee or Chicago to the
20 Green Bay and Fox Valley areas.

21 5. Adequate funding for future equipment orders of cars and locomotives to be
22 used in passenger rail service in Wisconsin.

23 6. Adequate funding for the study of future passenger rail routes and service
24 in Wisconsin.

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1 (b) Each state rail plan under sub. (1) or (2) shall express support for all of the
2 following:

3 1. Commuter rail as an integral part of public transportation.

4 2. The importance of intermodality and connectivity between all forms of public
5 transportation to provide stimulus for economic development and alternative
6 choices in transportation for a growing elderly population and persons with physical
7 disabilities.

8 (END)