



1995 ASSEMBLY BILL 360

May 10, 1995 - Introduced by Representatives BLACK, URBAN, GROBSCHMIDT, R. YOUNG, RILEY, ROBSON, HANSON, BALDWIN, HAHN and BOCK, cosponsored by Senators BURKE, BUETTNER and RISSER. Referred to Committee on Highways and Transportation.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 85.061 (3) of the statutes; **relating to:** criteria for expending
2 state bond revenue for rail passenger route development.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the department of transportation (DOT) administers a program to fund the capital costs of developing Amtrak passenger service routes between the cities of Milwaukee and Green Bay and the cities of Milwaukee and Madison. State bond revenue may be expended to develop these passenger routes, but only if Amtrak first agrees to provide passenger service along these routes, if developed.

This bill allows DOT to expend state bond revenue to fund the capital costs of developing these rail passenger service routes without regard to whether service will be provided by Amtrak, or whether a rail carrier has first agreed to provide service to these routes, if developed.

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.** 85.061 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:
4 85.061 (3) PROGRAM. The department shall administer a rail passenger route
5 development program. From the appropriation under s. 20.866 (2) (up), the
6 department may fund capital costs related to Amtrak rail passenger service
7 extension routes between the cities of Milwaukee and Madison and between the

1 cities of Milwaukee and Green Bay. The extension of the route between the cities of
2 Milwaukee and Green Bay shall provide service to population centers along the route
3 in a manner that makes the route most economically feasible. ~~The department may~~
4 ~~not use any proceeds from the bond issue authorized under s. 20.866 (2) (up) for the~~
5 ~~extension of a route under this subsection unless the department submits evidence~~
6 ~~to the joint committee on finance that Amtrak has agreed to provide rail passenger~~
7 ~~service on that extension route and the joint committee on finance approves the use~~
8 ~~of the proceeds.~~ The department may contract with Amtrak, railroads or other
9 persons to perform the activities under this subsection.

10 (END)