

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to mass transit; requiring initiation of negotiations to extend and modify
- 1.3 Northstar commuter rail passenger service.
- 1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.5 **Section 1. NORTHSTAR CORRIDOR EXTENSION; NEGOTIATIONS.**
- 1.6 The Governor's designee (State) must contact Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway
- 1.7 (BNSF) to negotiate an extension of the Northstar Corridor between Big Lake and St.
- 1.8 Cloud, subject to the following conditions:
- 1.9 (1) the Northstar Corridor will add at least one morning round trip departure
- 1.10 between the St. Cloud Amtrak Depot and Big Lake Station with continuing service to
- 1.11 Target Station each weekday, plus one evening round trip between Big Lake Station and
- 1.12 St. Cloud Amtrak Depot that must begin at Target Station, with the departure and arrival
- 1.13 times set so that approximately ten or more hours elapse between the morning departure
- 1.14 and evening return each day for both round trips. The state may also negotiate weekend
- 1.15 departures and arrivals between St. Cloud and Target Station;
- 1.16 (2) the state may negotiate for fewer round trip departures from Big Lake to Target
- 1.17 Station each weekday, and fewer round trip departures on weekends;
- 1.18 (3) BNSF must continue to crew and dispatch all trains and provide other
- 1.19 track-related services;
- 1.20 (4) the St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) must be responsible for
- 1.21 fare collection in St. Cloud and must negotiate with Amtrak for using the Amtrak station.
- 1.22 The MTC must negotiate an agreement with the Metropolitan Council, which must require
- 1.23 approval by the city of St. Cloud, regarding the sharing of revenues and expenses related
- 1.24 to the Amtrak station, fare collection, and advertising. This agreement must not allow

- 2.1 the MTC, city of St. Cloud, or other local government to enter into agreements on any
- 2.2 subject other than the operation of the Northstar Corridor;
- 2.3 (5) the state may not commit to spend any state funds on capital expenditures;
- 2.4 (6) the state may not commit to spend any more state funds on operating costs than
- 2.5 the total sum it and the Metropolitan Council have budgeted for the Northstar Corridor; and
- 2.6 (7) the state may negotiate with the federal government, counties and cities, or the
- 2.7 Northstar Corridor Development Authority to provide additional funding for services
- 2.8 necessary to extend the Northstar Corridor.