

**Subject** Local government: St. Paul Union Depot liability and indemnification

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## Summary

Under federal law, Amtrak is required to maintain liability insurance coverage for rail-related incidents. *See* 49 U.S.C.A. § 28103. The minimum amount of the required insurance coverage is indexed for inflation and is currently at \$322,864,228. This same federal law authorizes Amtrak to enter into contracts that allocate financial responsibility for claims to other parties. *See id.* This bill arises from a contractual provision allocating financial responsibility between Amtrak and Ramsey County.

The bill requires that, so long as Ramsey County and the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority maintain insurance to cover no less than \$50,000,000 in liability for rail-related incidents occurring at St. Paul's Union Depot, the Metropolitan Council will indemnify them for any excess liability up to the federal maximum. The bill also specifies that insurance procured by Ramsey County and the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority does not constitute a waiver of liability limitations under the state's municipal tort claims act.