

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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This bill authorizes \$4.5 million in G.O. bonds and appropriates the funds for a new category of freight railroad rehabilitation and infrastructure improvement grants being established under the Minnesota Rail Service Improvement (MRSI) program. The program requirements consist of:

- Grant eligibility for class II and class III railroads, local governmental units, and shippers (regardless of rail facility ownership);
- A grant maximum at 80 percent of project costs; and
- Prioritization of awards based on capital or rehabilitation projects to improve service, segments experiencing low rail service use, and more than 20 percent of the funding coming from nonstate and nonfederal sources.