

Subject Transportation policy omnibus
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Overview

This bill contains a variety of transportation policy provisions. Substantially similar language was proposed in the 2018 omnibus supplemental budget (see S.F. 3656, 3rd Engrossment, art. 24).

Summary

Section	Description
1	Certain transit financial activity reporting. Changes the frequency (from quarterly to twice a year) of a review of the Metropolitan Council's transportation financial records by the legislative auditor. Eliminates reporting on the Counties Transit Improvement Board. Has the provision expire in 2024. Effective June 1, 2019.
2	Metropolitan Council special transportation service. Identifies a cross reference in the Data Practices Act on data sharing between the Department of Human Services and the Metropolitan Council in order to administer and coordinate special transportation services.
3	Transportation service data. Allows disclosure of private data on individuals between the Department of Human Services and the Metropolitan Council in order to administer and coordinate special transportation services between the agencies. Effective June 1, 2019.
4	Bikeway. Centralizes bicycle-related definitions.
5	Route No. 180. Modifies the routing for a legislative route established in state statute through parts of Grant and Otter Tail counties.

Section	Description
6	Trooper Ray Krueger Memorial Highway. Memorializes Ray Krueger by designating the stretch of Trunk Highway 210 in Cass County as “Trooper Ray Krueger Memorial Highway.”
7	Warrant Officer Dennis A. Groth Memorial Bridge. Memorializes Warrant Officer Dennis A. Groth by designating a bridge on U.S. Highway 52 in Dakota County as the “Warrant Officer Dennis A. Groth Memorial Bridge.”
8	Specialist Noah Pierce Bridge. Memorializes Specialist Noah Pierce by designating a bridge on U.S. Highway 53 in Eveleth as “Specialist Noah Pierce Bridge.”
9	Direct negotiation. Raises the limit from \$150,000 to \$250,000 for maintenance or construction contracts in which MnDOT can use direct negotiation instead of being required to use the competitive bidding process.
10	Amounts. Makes technical changes, to remove language on fees and technology surcharges that have expired.
11	Bicycle lane. Establishes that bicycle lanes are part of the roadway (that is, the main traveled portion of a road) and not a shoulder (the contiguous portion of the road that is not traveled upon).
12	Bikeway. Broadens a definition of “bikeway” for the chapter of statutes on traffic regulations.
13	Passing. Requires clearance when passing a bicycle of at least three feet or half of a vehicle’s width, whichever is greater, unless passing in a separate lane. Makes technical changes, to modernize language.
14	Laned highway. Allows semis and other similarly large vehicles to deviate from the driving lane when approaching and going through a roundabout. Makes technical changes.

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15	<p>Roundabouts.</p> <p>Provides for right-of-way when two semis or other similarly large vehicles drive through a roundabout at the same time, so that the driver of the vehicle on the right must yield to the vehicle on the left.</p>
16	<p>Traffic laws apply.</p> <p>Clarifies that bicyclists operating on a shoulder have the same rights and duties as when operating on the road generally. Makes a technical change, to reproduce language on sidewalk and crosswalk operating authority that is being moved from another subdivision in the statute.</p>
17	<p>Riding rules.</p> <p>Permits bicyclists to proceed straight through an intersection from a right-hand turn lane, and allows the bicyclist to situate the bike anywhere in the lane (not just farthest to the right). Makes technical changes, including to eliminate language that is being moved to another subdivision in the statute.</p>
18	<p>White strobe lamps on certain buses transporting children.</p> <p>Makes technical changes.</p>
19	<p>Supplemental warning system.</p> <p>Authorizes school buses to be equipped with supplemental flashing lights or electronic signs that are approved by the Department of Public Safety.</p>
20	<p>Restrictions on appearance; misdemeanor.</p> <p>Makes conforming and technical changes.</p>
21	<p>Colors.</p> <p>Broadens the permissible colors for the rub rails running around a school bus, to allow them to be yellow (which is in addition to black).</p>
22	<p>Identification.</p> <p>Authorizes use of a changeable electronic message sign instead of specified static text on the rear of a school bus, if it is used in conjunction with school bus warning and stop lighting and is an approved supplemental warning system.</p>
23	<p>Supplemental warning system; temporary authority.</p> <p>Permits the Department of Public Safety to approve school buses to be equipped with supplemental flashing lights or changeable electronic message signs. The authority expires August 1, 2022 (and buses previously approved to be equipped can continue to</p>

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24	<p>use the system). Specifies considerations for granting approval and requires research and consultation with stakeholders.</p> <p>Lights or reflectors required. Makes technical changes. (The language being stricken is substantially reproduced in other sections of statutes.)</p>
25	<p>Maintenance. Makes technical changes. (The language being stricken is substantially reproduced in another section of statutes.)</p>
26	<p>Flashing lights; glaring lights. Makes conforming and technical changes, including to centralize restrictions on flashing and glaring lights.</p>
27	<p>White light. Makes conforming, technical, and clarifying changes, to create a centralized provision on when a vehicle can display white lights. (This includes language being reproduced from another section of statutes.)</p>
28	<p>Strobe lamp. Modifies the minimum intensity of authorized strobe lamps on vehicles to be based on an engineering standard produced by SAE International, instead of referencing a candela measure of light output. Makes technical changes.</p>
29	<p>Automobile transporter. Modifies length limits and backhaul authority for vehicles that transport assembled motor vehicles, including allowing loads that extends four feet or less in front of the vehicle and six feet or less in the rear.</p>
30	<p>Conditions. Permits a vehicle operating under an overweight permit for hauling raw or unfinished forest products to operate on a stretch of Interstate 35 between Carlton County and St. Louis County (as authorized under federal law).</p>
31	<p>Certain emergency vehicles. Establishes per-axle and gross vehicle weight limits for emergency vehicles operated on interstates, using limits established in federal law.</p>

Section	Description
32	<p>Suspension of driver’s license.</p> <p>Prohibits the Department of Public Safety from suspending a person’s driver’s license based on the failure to appear in court after receiving a citation for a petty misdemeanor or for driving after suspension.</p>
33	<p>Restricted license for farm work.</p> <p>Allows an individual to use a restricted license for farm work on any type of farm, regardless of how it is legally established. Expands the allowed operation radius from the farmhouse, to be 40 miles instead of 20 miles. Effective June 1, 2019.</p>
34	<p>Fees.</p> <p>Makes technical changes, to remove language on a technology surcharge that has expired.</p>
35	<p>Commissioner shall suspend.</p> <p>Prohibits suspension of a person’s driver’s license if the person was only convicted for driving after suspension or driving after revocation.</p>
36	<p>Failure to pay fine.</p> <p>Prohibits suspension of a person’s driver’s license based solely on the fact that the person failed to pay a traffic ticket, parking fine, or surcharge.</p>
37	<p>Offenses.</p> <p>Allows suspension of a person's driver’s license when the person has eight unpaid parking tickets within a year, or ten unpaid parking tickets within two years. Prohibits suspending the driver’s license of a person who is convicted of driving after suspension or revocation.</p>
38	<p>Legislative report.</p> <p>Modifies a legislative report on the Transportation Economic Development (TED) program, so that the report need not be submitted if no funds were provided in the previous 24 months.</p>
39	<p>[Adds § 299A.704] Driver and vehicle services fund.</p> <p>Creates a new Driver and Vehicles Services (DVS) fund in the state treasury that holds the operating and technology accounts related to Driver and Vehicle Services.</p>
40	<p>Driver and vehicle services accounts.</p> <p>Moves driver and vehicle services operating and technology accounts into the new DVS fund being created. Requires annual reporting on the driver and vehicle services information technology project. Makes technical changes.</p>

Section	Description
41	<p>Comprehensive plan.</p> <p>Defines “comprehensive plan” for the chapter of statutes on aeronautics by cross-reference to definitions in county and municipal planning and zoning statutes. Effective August 1, 2019.</p>
42	<p>Creation; authorized disbursements.</p> <p>Allows for state airports fund expenditures for municipal airport planning and permits municipalities to receive assistance from the fund even if its comprehensive plan is incompatible with the state aviation plan. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.</p>
43	<p>Authority to establish.</p> <p>States that airport operation and maintenance is an essential public service. Allows MnDOT to fund airport safety projects to maintain existing infrastructure regardless of a zoning authority’s efforts to complete zoning, but otherwise requires funds be withheld from the airport unless it is proceeding with or has completed an airport zoning ordinance. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.</p>
44	<p>Air transportation service.</p> <p>Requires MnDOT to charge users of agency provided air transportation services for the capital costs of the aircraft, including for aircraft acquisition, replacement, or leasing. Establishes a new account for the revenue. Prohibits account transfers. Makes technical changes.</p>
45	<p>Airport hazard prevention; protecting existing land uses.</p> <p>Narrows specification of what constitutes airport hazards based on existing land uses around the airport. Establishes that prevention of airport hazards and airport lighting are essential public services, not just public purposes. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.</p>
46	<p>Enforcement under police power.</p> <p>Provides for municipal zoning regulation in airport hazard areas (that is, areas where an aircraft takeoff or landing hazards might be established), broadening the geographic area that can be regulated by removing the specific distance limitations. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.</p>
47	<p>Joint airport zoning board.</p> <p>Makes technical and conforming changes, to cross-reference proposed airport zoning regulation standards being established in the bill. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.</p>

Section	Description
48	Comprehensive regulations. Requires inclusion in the municipal comprehensive plan any airport zoning regulations that apply to the same area as a municipal plan does. It is permissive under current law. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.
49	Notice of proposed zoning regulations, hearing. Specifies procedures for notice of proposed zoning regulations in newspapers, on websites, and by mail. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.
50	[Adds § 360.0655] Airport zoning regulations based on commissioner’s standards; submission process. Establishes a process for political subdivisions to adopt airport zoning regulations using standards prescribed by MnDOT, which includes specifying MnDOT review and subsequent revision procedures, permitting more stringent local ordinances, preserving substantive rights from before August 1, 2019, and providing for protection of existing uses. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.
51	[Adds § 360.0656] Custom airport zoning standards. Provides an alternative zoning process (to the previous section) that allows custom regulations by a local government. Specifies the factors that must be addressed in the custom regulations and provides for MnDOT review and subsequent revision procedures. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.
52	Reasonableness. Eliminates a nonexclusive list of considerations in determining reasonableness of airport zoning regulations. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.
53	Federal no hazard determination. Permits a custom regulation to allow a structure or tree higher than otherwise allowed if the Federal Aviation Administration has analyzed it and determined it does not pose a hazard, require a change in operations, or require mitigation that cannot be accomplished. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.
54	Membership. Allows for staggered initial appointments of a zoning board of adjustments. For the MAC, provides that the commission chair, not the commission as whole, makes the appointments. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.

Section	Description
55	<p>Zoning required.</p> <p>Similar to a previous section, allows MnDOT to fund airport safety projects to maintain existing infrastructure regardless of a zoning authority’s efforts to complete zoning, but otherwise prohibits funding unless the municipality, county, or joint airport zoning board is proceeding on with zoning. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.</p>
56	<p>Airport safety zone (county planning law).</p> <p>Adds a definition of “airport safety zone” to the county planning and zoning statute.</p>
57	<p>Comprehensive plan (county planning law).</p> <p>Requires a county to consider the location and dimensions of airport safety zones in its comprehensive plans, as well as consider any improvements identified in the airport’s layout plan. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.</p>
58	<p>Comprehensive plans in Greater Minnesota; open space (county planning law).</p> <p>Adds to the goals of county plans in Greater Minnesota, so that the plan encourages land uses in airport safety zones that are compatible with safe airport operation. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.</p>
59	<p>In district zoning, maps (county planning law).</p> <p>Requires county zoning maps to include airport safety zones. Effective August 1, 2019, for maps created or updated on or after that date.</p>
60	<p>Airport safety zone (municipal planning law).</p> <p>Adds a definition of “airport safety zone” to the municipal planning and zoning statute by cross-reference to the definition in the county planning and zoning statute.</p>
61	<p>Preparation and review (municipal planning law).</p> <p>Requires a municipality to consider the location and dimensions of airport safety zones in its plans, as well as to consider any improvements identified in the airport’s layout plan. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.</p>
62	<p>Airport safety zones on zoning maps (municipal planning law).</p> <p>Requires municipal zoning maps to include airport safety zones. Effective August 1, 2019, for maps created or updated on or after that date.</p>
63	<p>Development goals and objectives (municipal planning law).</p> <p>Adds to the goals of municipal plans in Greater Minnesota, so that the plan encourages land uses in airport safety zones that are compatible with safe airport operation. Effective August 1, 2019, for runway-related changes on or after that date.</p>

Section	Description
64	<p>Budget changes or variances; reports.</p> <p>Directs the Metropolitan Council to provide quarterly reports to the legislature on any changes or variances it has from its adopted budget. Effective June 1, 2019.</p>
65	<p>Data practices.</p> <p>Specifies what data may be shared between the Department of Human Services and the Metropolitan Council for purposes of administering and coordinating special transportation services. Requires the data subject, when applying for or renewing eligibility to use special transportation services to give consent prior to data sharing. Provides for individual opt-out from data sharing.</p>
66	<p>Exemptions; certain manufacturers; commissioner of transportation; road maintenance.</p> <p>Permits MnDOT to waive payment and performance bond requirements for direct negotiation contracts for construction or maintenance work.</p>
67	<p>Pilot program evaluation.</p> <p>Modifies the due date and recipients for a legislative report on a pilot program that is being extended in the next section.</p>
68	<p>Expiration.</p> <p>Extends an expiration date from 2022 to 2026 for a pilot program that allows for community destination signs in Two Harbors.</p>
69	<p>Legislative Route No. 222 removed.</p> <p>Provides for a county turnback of Trunk Highway 222 following agreement between MnDOT and Red Lake County.</p>
70	<p>Legislative Route No. 253 removed.</p> <p>Provides for a county turnback of Trunk Highway 253 following agreement between MnDOT and Faribault County.</p>
71	<p>Legislative Route No. 254 removed.</p> <p>Provides for a county turnback of Trunk Highway 254 following agreement between MnDOT and Faribault County.</p>
72	<p>Legislative Route No. 277 removed.</p> <p>Provides for a county turnback of Trunk Highway 277 following agreement between MnDOT and Chippewa County.</p>

Section	Description
73	<p>Legislative Route No. 298 removed.</p> <p>Provides for a county turnback of Trunk Highway 298 in Faribault following agreement between MnDOT and the city of Faribault.</p>
74	<p>Legislative Route No. 299 removed.</p> <p>Provides for a county turnback of Trunk Highway 299 in Faribault following agreement between MnDOT and the city of Faribault.</p>
75	<p>Legislative Route No. 323 removed.</p> <p>Provides for a county turnback of Trunk Highway 323 in Faribault following agreement between MnDOT and the city of Faribault.</p>
76	<p>Retroactive license reinstatement.</p> <p>Requires the Department of Public Safety to make an individual's driver's license eligible for reinstatement if that license is suspended based on a conviction for driving after suspension or revocation, failure to pay a fee or fine, or both. Provides a process by which a person may have his or her license reinstated. Effective April 1, 2020.</p>
77	<p>Commercial driver's license federal regulation waiver request.</p> <p>Directs the Department of Public Safety to request a federal waiver from a school bus endorsement requirement on a driver's license in order to deliver a purchased bus.</p>
78	<p>Northstar Commuter Rail operating costs; exception.</p> <p>Permits the Anoka County Regional Railroad Authority to expend reserve funds on Northstar Commuter Rail operations. The authority expires January 1, 2022.</p>
79	<p>Revisor's instructions.</p> <p>Provides technical direction to the Revisor of Statutes. Paragraph (a) makes a conforming change to centralize bicycle-related definitions. Paragraph (b) makes a conforming change to update references to the driver and vehicle services accounts.</p>
80	<p>Repealer.</p> <p>Repeals various sections in conjunction with other provisions in the bill. Paragraph (a) repeals language on technology surcharges that have expired. Paragraph (b) repeals provisions related to airport zoning and planning, including language that is being replaced in the bill.</p>



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