

Subject Minnesota rail service improvement program

Authors Torkelson

Analyst Matt Burress (matt.burress@house.mn)

Date March 7, 2022

Summary

This bill authorizes \$20,000,000 in general obligation bonds and appropriates the proceeds to the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for the Minnesota rail service improvement (MRSI) program.

Background. Subject to available funding, the MRSI program provides grants and loans for freight rail purposes, including capital improvement and rail line rehabilitation. In administering the program, MnDOT uses a solicitation and project evaluation process to award grants. Grants must be for improvements that support economic development. Minn. Stat. § 222.50, subd. 6. Eligible recipients include railroads and local units of government.