SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
EIGHTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

S.F. No. 1960

(SENATE AUTHORS: GIMSE, Sheran, Howe, Dibble and DeKruif)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/20/2012	3855	Introduction and first reading Referred to Transportation
03/01/2012		Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to Finance

A bill for an act

relating to transportation; directing commissioners of transportation and employment and economic development to study and report to the legislature about economic development related to freight railroad operation; amending Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 174.03, by adding a subdivision.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 174.03, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1d. **Statewide freight rail plan.** (a) The commissioner of transportation, in consultation with the commissioner of employment and economic development, shall study the economic impact and development possibilities associated with freight railroads in this state, and create a plan to maximize economic development directly and indirectly related to the operations of freight railroads. The commissioner of transportation shall adopt the plan as a component of the statewide freight and passenger rail plan.

(b) The commissioner of transportation shall report by January 15, 2013, on the study and plan to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over transportation policy and finance and over employment and economic development. The report shall include any recommended legislative initiatives.

(c) The commissioner of transportation may expend money under section 222.50, subdivision 7, to pay the costs of this study and report.