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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 241

01/23/2025

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Finance and Policy

- 1.1A bill for an act
- 1.2relating to transportation; modifying passenger rail appropriation; amending Laws
- 1.32023, chapter 68, article 1, section 2, subdivision 2.
- 1.4BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.5Section 1. Laws 2023, chapter 68, article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- 1.6Subd. 2. **Multimodal Systems**
- 1.7(a) **Aeronautics**
- 1.8(1) **Airport Development and Assistance**69,598,00018,598,000
- 1.9Appropriations by Fund
- 1.1020242025
- 1.11General36,000,000-0-
- 1.12Airports33,598,00018,598,000
- 1.13The appropriation from the state airports fund
- 1.14must be spent according to Minnesota Statutes,
- 1.15section 360.305, subdivision 4.
- 1.16\$36,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 is from the
- 1.17general fund for matches to federal aid and
- 1.18state investments related to airport
- 1.19infrastructure projects. This is a onetime
- 1.20appropriation and is available until June 30,
- 1.212027.

2.1\$15,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 is from the

2.2state airports fund for system maintenance of

2.3critical airport safety systems, equipment, and

2.4essential airfield technology.

2.5Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section

2.616A.28, subdivision 6, the appropriation from

2.7the state airports fund is available for five

2.8years after the year of the appropriation. If the

2.9appropriation for either year is insufficient,

2.10the appropriation for the other year is available

2.11for it.

2.12If the commissioner of transportation

2.13determines that a balance remains in the state

2.14airports fund following the appropriations

2.15made in this article and that the appropriations

2.16made are insufficient for advancing airport

2.17development and assistance projects, an

2.18amount necessary to advance the projects, not

2.19to exceed the balance in the state airports fund,

2.20is appropriated in each year to the

2.21commissioner and must be spent according to

2.22Minnesota Statutes, section 360.305,

2.23subdivision 4. Within two weeks of a

2.24determination under this contingent

2.25appropriation, the commissioner of

2.26transportation must notify the commissioner

2.27of management and budget and the chairs,

2.28ranking minority members, and staff of the

2.29legislative committees with jurisdiction over

2.30transportation finance concerning the funds

2.31appropriated. Funds appropriated under this

2.32contingent appropriation do not adjust the base

2.33for fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

2.34(2) **Aviation Support Services**15,397,0008,431,000

3.1	Appropriations by Fund		
3.2		2024	2025
3.3	General	8,707,000	1,741,000
3.4	Airports	6,690,000	6,690,000
3.5	\$7,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 is from the		
3.6	general fund to purchase two utility aircraft		
3.7	for the Department of Transportation.		
3.8	(3) Civil Air Patrol	80,000	80,000
3.9	This appropriation is from the state airports		
3.10	fund for the Civil Air Patrol.		
3.11	(b) Transit and Active Transportation	58,478,000	18,374,000
3.12	This appropriation is from the general fund.		
3.13	\$200,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$50,000 in		
3.14	fiscal year 2025 are for a grant to the city of		
3.15	Rochester to implement demand response		
3.16	transit service using electric transit vehicles.		
3.17	The money is available for mobile software		
3.18	application development; vehicles and		
3.19	equipment, including accessible vehicles;		
3.20	associated charging infrastructure; and capital		
3.21	and operating costs.		
3.22	\$40,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 is for matches		
3.23	to federal aid and state investments related to		
3.24	transit and active transportation projects. This		
3.25	is a onetime appropriation and is available		
3.26	until June 30, 2027.		
3.27	(c) Safe Routes to School	15,297,000	10,500,000
3.28	This appropriation is from the general fund		
3.29	for the safe routes to school program under		
3.30	Minnesota Statutes, section 174.40.		
3.31	If the appropriation for either year is		
3.32	insufficient, the appropriation for the other		

4.1year is available for it. The appropriations in

4.2each year are available until June 30, 2027.

4.3The base for this appropriation is \$1,500,000

4.4in each of fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

4.5

(d) **Passenger Rail**197,521,0004,226,000

4.6This appropriation is from the general fund

4.7for passenger rail activities under Minnesota

4.8Statutes, sections 174.632 to 174.636.

4.9\$194,700,000 in fiscal year 2024 is for capital

4.10improvements and betterments for the

4.11Minneapolis-Duluth Northern Lights Express

4.12intercity passenger rail project, including

4.13preliminary engineering, design, engineering,

4.14environmental analysis and mitigation,

4.15acquisition of land and right-of-way,

4.16equipment and rolling stock, and construction.

4.17From this appropriation, the amount necessary

4.18is for: (1) Coon Rapids station improvements

4.19to establish a joint station that provides for

4.20Amtrak train service on the Empire Builder

4.21line between Chicago and Seattle; and (2)

4.22acquisition of equipment and rolling stock for

4.23purposes of participation in the Midwest fleet

4.24pool to provide for service on Northern Lights

4.25Express and expanded Amtrak train service

4.26between Minneapolis and St. Paul and

4.27Chicago. The commissioner of transportation

4.28must not approve additional stops or stations

4.29beyond those included in the Federal Railroad

4.30Administration's January 2018 Finding of No

4.31Significant Impact and Section 4(f)

4.32Determination if the commissioner determines

4.33that the resulting speed reduction would

4.34negatively impact total ridership. This

4.35appropriation is onetime and is available for

5.1 this purpose until June 30, 2028. If federal
5.2 funds for final design and construction of the
5.3 project are not granted by June 30, 2028, any
5.4 remaining amount of this appropriation is for
5.5 the corridors of commerce program under
5.6 Minnesota Statutes, section 161.088, and is
5.7 available until June 30, 2032.

5.8 \$1,833,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$3,238,000
5.9 in fiscal year 2025 are for a match to federal
5.10 aid for capital and operating costs for
5.11 expanded Amtrak train service between
5.12 Minneapolis and St. Paul and Chicago.

5.13 The base from the general fund is \$5,742,000
5.14 in each of fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

5.15	(e) Freight	14,650,000	9,066,000
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5.16	Appropriations by Fund		
5.17		2024	2025
5.18	General	8,283,000	2,400,000
5.19	Trunk Highway	6,367,000	6,666,000

5.20 \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 is from the
5.21 general fund for matching federal aid grants
5.22 for improvements, engineering, and
5.23 administrative costs for the Stone Arch Bridge
5.24 in Minneapolis. This is a onetime
5.25 appropriation and is available until June 30,
5.26 2027.

5.27 \$1,000,000 in each year is from the general
5.28 fund for staff, operating costs, and
5.29 maintenance related to weight and safety
5.30 enforcement systems.

5.31 \$974,000 in fiscal year 2024 is from the
5.32 general fund for procurement costs of a
5.33 statewide freight network optimization tool
5.34 under Laws 2021, First Special Session

- 6.1chapter 5, article 4, section 133. This is a
- 6.2onetime appropriation and is available until
- 6.3June 30, 2025.