

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

S.F. No. 1171

(SENATE AUTHORS: KUPEC, McEwen, Dibble, Johnson Stewart and Latz)		
DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/10/2025	329	Introduction and first reading Referred to Transportation
02/13/2025	393	Author added Latz

1.1

A bill for an act

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relating to railroads; increasing the number of state rail safety inspectors from six

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to ten; making a technical correction; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections

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218.041, subdivision 6; 219.015, subdivision 2.

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

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Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 218.041, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

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Subd. 6. **Investigative powers.** In the exercise of powers granted in this chapter, the

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commissioner may:

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(1) subpoena books, papers, or accounts kept by any regulated business within or without

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the state, or compel production of verified copies;

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(2) prepare all forms or blanks for obtaining information that the commissioner may

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deem necessary or useful for the proper exercise of the authority and duties of the

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commissioner in connection with regulated businesses, and prescribe the time and manner

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within which the blanks and forms must be completed and filed;

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(3) inspect, at all reasonable times, and copy the books, records, memoranda,

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correspondence, or other documents and records of any business under the commissioner's

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jurisdiction;

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(4) examine, under oath, any officer, agent, or employee of a business under the

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commissioner's jurisdiction concerning any matter within the commissioner's jurisdiction;

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and

(5) assess common carriers, administer the state rail safety inspection account, and perform other duties on behalf of the state rail safety inspector program under section 219.015.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 219.015, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Railroad company assessment; account; appropriation. (a) As provided in this subdivision, the commissioner must annually assess railroad companies that are (1) defined as common carriers under section 218.011; (2) classified by federal law or regulation as Class I Railroads, Class I Rail Carriers, Class II Railroads, or Class II Rail Carriers; and (3) operating in this state.

(b) The assessment must be calculated to allocate state rail safety inspection program costs proportionally among carriers based on route miles operated in Minnesota at the time of assessment. The commissioner must include in the assessment calculation all state rail safety inspection program costs to support up to ~~six~~ ten rail safety inspector positions, including but not limited to salary, administration, supervision, travel, equipment, training, and ongoing state rail inspector duties.

(c) The assessments collected under this subdivision must be deposited in a state rail safety inspection account, which is established in the special revenue fund. The account consists of funds provided by this subdivision and section 221.0255 and any other money donated, allotted, transferred, or otherwise provided to the account. Money in the account is appropriated to the commissioner to administer the state rail safety inspection program and for costs under section 221.0255.