

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 3656

DATE: March 27, 2006

Version: First engrossment

Authors: Tingelstad

Subject: Tort Liability of Railroads under Government Contract

Analyst: Deborah K. McKnight, 651-296-5056

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

The bill applies government tort liability law to a private railroad acting under contract with government to provide commuter rail service. The result is: (1) to apply the \$300,000 per person/\$1,000,000 per incident damage cap to the railroad operation, and (2) exempt such a railroad from liability for punitive damages.