

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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The bill authorizes \$10 million in general obligation bonds and appropriates the funds to the Metropolitan Council for a grant to the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority. The money is for Minnesota's share of environmental analysis of a high-speed rail line between Union Depot in St. Paul and Chicago, routed through La Crescent, Winona, and Red Wing. No part of the funds may be used for capital improvements outside of the state or outside of the rail corridor designated in the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact.

The bill also requires development of a comprehensive rail plan that includes the high-speed rail project, with a draft copy to be submitted to the transportation committees for review and comment before final adoption.