

H.F. 3499

First Engrossment

Subject Railroad regulations

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Overview

This bill sets and revises requirements on railroads, including to (1) limit train lengths, (2) amend an automobile insurance coverage mandate in some transportation of railroad employees, and (3) establish civil penalties for some violations. Effective August 1, 2024.

Summary

Section Description

1 [Adds § 219.5505] Train length.

Limits train lengths in Minnesota to a maximum of 8,500 feet, which applies to all railroads and trains. Sets a schedule of fine amounts for violations, ranging from \$1,000 to at least \$25,000 depending on repeated offenses. Authorizes the Minnesota Department of Transportation to enforce the provision through civil action pursued in court.

2 Motor carrier of railroad employees; requirements.

Increases the minimum automobile insurance required of a motor carrier of railroad employees, from \$1 million to \$5 million in uninsured and underinsured coverage.

3 **Penalty; civil action.**

Sets a schedule of fines, ranging from \$200 to \$5,000 depending on repeated offenses, for a violation of motor carrier of railroad employee requirements. (The requirements cover various topics including training, driver qualifications, insurance, vehicle equipment, testing, and driver hours of service.) Provides for enforcement by the Minnesota Department of Transportation through a civil action in court and deposit of fine revenue.



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