

March 12, 2007

H 603. RAIL SERVICE STUDY COMMISSION. Filed 3/12/07. *TO CREATE THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON EXPANDING RAIL SERVICE.* Creates a new 16-member Joint Legislative Commission on Expanding Rail Service directed to study: (1) costs and benefits of expanding and upgrading rail service in the state; (2) feasibility, cost, and benefits of establishing commuter rail service to transport workers to cities from outlying areas; (3) cost and benefits of expanding passenger rail service to the eastern and western parts of the state; (4) ways to preserve unused rail corridors for future use; and (5) tax incentives for rail improvements to spur economic growth through further expansion and improvements of railroads. Requires the commission to make a final report to the 2009 General Assembly, at which time the commission will terminate. Provides for commission staff, expenses, meeting location, and contracting for consultant services.

Intro. by Rapp, Pate, Dickson.

STUDY

March 29, 2007

H 603. RAIL SERVICE STUDY COMMISSION. Filed 3/12/07. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Makes changes to Section 1(b) to require the commission to also study the importance of rail service to military preparedness and to the state's deepwater ports, rail service to and between the Global TransPark and military bases, and rail service as a part of a multimodal transportation system.