2018 Special Session I

Budget Bill - HB5002 (HB5002S1)

Bill Order » Office of Transportation » Item 446

Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Item 446	First Year - FY2019	Second Year - FY2020
Financial Assistance for Rail Programs (61000)	**$127,488,369**	**$127,488,369**
Rail Industrial Access (61001)	$3,000,000	$3,000,000
Rail Preservation Programs (61002)	$14,583,520	$14,583,520
Passenger and Freight Rail Financial Assistance Programs (61003)	$109,904,849	$109,904,849
Fund Sources:		
Special	$1,000,000	$1,000,000
Commonwealth Transportation	$126,488,369	$126,488,369

Authority: Title 33.2, Code of Virginia.

A. 1. Except as provided in Item 447, the Commonwealth Transportation Board shall operate the Shortline Railway Preservation and Development program in accordance with § 33.2-1602, Code of Virginia. As determined by the board, funds apportioned pursuant to § 33.2-1530, Code of Virginia, shall be appropriated to the Shortline Railway Preservation and Development Program. Total funding appropriated to the Shortline Railway Preservation and Development Program from this source shall not exceed $4,000,000 the first year and $4,000,000 the second year.

2. The board may allocate up to 20 percent of the annual revenue of the Rail Enhancement Fund established through § 33.2-1601, Code of Virginia, to the Shortline Railway Preservation and Development Fund. Should funds established in § 33.2-1601, Code of Virginia, be allocated for the purposes outlined in § 33.2-1602, Code of Virginia, the Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation shall administer and expend the funds subject to the approval of the board and according to the authority outlined in § 33.2-1602; the requirements of § 33.2-1601 shall not apply.

B. The Commonwealth Transportation Board shall operate the Rail Industrial Access Program in accordance with § 33.2-1600, Code of Virginia. The board may allocate funds pursuant to § 33.2-358, Code of Virginia, to the fund for construction of industrial access railroad tracks.

C. Of the funds appropriated pursuant to Chapters 1019 and 1044 of the 2000 Acts of Assembly for passenger rail capacity improvements in the I-95 passenger rail corridor between Richmond and the District of Columbia, the Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation is authorized to utilize any remaining funds along the described corridor for the development of intercity passenger rail enhancements to include rail improvements and passenger station facilities.

D. Because of the overwhelming need for the delivery of services provided by the investment in a balanced transportation system in the Commonwealth, and in an effort to deliver intercity passenger trains utilizing the Commonwealth's investments and to increase passenger train frequencies to Norfolk and Roanoke, notwithstanding the provisions of § 33.2-1601 and § 33.2-1603, Code of Virginia, the Commonwealth

Transportation Board may only make further investments in intercity passenger rail capacity to serve new markets in North Carolina, provided the Six-Year Improvement Plan adopted pursuant to § 33.2-214, Code of Virginia includes sufficient funding to complete projects underway to deliver train capacity improvements and provides the funding for service for additional passenger rail frequency to Norfolk and an extension of passenger rail to Roanoke. Any Rail Enhancement Funds utilized for the purposes of the service delivery outlined in this paragraph shall be administered according to the guidelines governing the use of Intercity Passenger Rail Operating and Capital Funds.