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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 4356

02/28/2024 Authored by Brand and Frederick

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to railroads; establishing limitations on the hours of service required of  
1.3 yardmasters; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 219.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. 219.756 **YARDMASTER HOURS OF SERVICE.**

1.6 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have  
1.7 the meanings given.

1.8 (b) "Railroad" means a common carrier that is classified by federal law or regulation as  
1.9 a Class I railroad, Class I rail carrier, Class II railroad, Class II rail carrier, Class III railroad,  
1.10 or Class III rail carrier.

1.11 (c) "Yardmaster" means an employee of a common carrier who is responsible for  
1.12 supervising and coordinating the control of trains and engines operating within a railyard,  
1.13 not including a dispatching service employee, signal employee, or train employee as those  
1.14 terms are defined in United States Code, title 49, section 21101.

1.15 Subd. 2. Hours of service. (a) A railroad operating in this state must not require or allow  
1.16 a yardmaster to remain or go on duty:

1.17 (1) in any month when the employee has spent a total of 276 hours on duty or in any  
1.18 other mandatory service for the carrier;

1.19 (2) for a period exceeding 12 consecutive hours; and

1.20 (3) unless the employee has had at least ten consecutive hours off duty during the prior  
1.21 24 hours.

- 2.1 (b) A railroad operating in this state must not require or allow a yardmaster to remain  
2.2 or go on duty after the employee has initiated an on-duty period each day for six consecutive  
2.3 days unless the employee has had 48 consecutive hours off at the employee's home terminal,  
2.4 during which time the employee is unavailable for any service.