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LRB-4550/2 ARG:kjf:md

2009 ASSEMBLY BILL 960

April 15, 2010 – Introduced by Representatives Davis, Vos, Kramer, Bies, Gunderson, Honadel, Kerkman, Kleefisch, Knodl, LeMahieu, Lothian, Montgomery, Murtha, Petersen, Spanbauer, Strachota, Suder, Townsend, Vukmir, M. Williams and Zipperer, cosponsored by Senators Leibham, A. Lasee, Hopper, Darling, Grothman, Lazich and Olsen. Referred to Joint Committee on Finance.

AN ACT to create 85.057 of the statutes; relating to: requiring that certain rail

passenger service extension projects be enumerated by the legislature.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Transportation (DOT) administers a rail passenger route development program, funded from general obligation bond proceeds. The program allows DOT, subject to various limitations, to provide funds for certain expenses relating to rail passenger service, including capital costs related to rail passenger service routes between the cities of Milwaukee and Madison. Federal funds may also be available for rail passenger service route development.

This bill prohibits DOT, as well as any other state agency or regional transit authority, from encumbering or expending any federal, state, or local funds for any aspect of a rail passenger service extension project, including for costs associated with environmental assessments or reports, preliminary engineering or design work, or project construction, unless the legislature has approved the project by statutory enumeration. The bill defines a "rail passenger service extension project" as a project that involves extending an existing rail passenger route, or creating a new rail passenger route, within any corridor between the cities of Milwaukee and Madison. The bill does not enumerate any such projects.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

ASSEMBLY BILL 960

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1	Section 1. 85.057 of the statutes is created to read:
2	85.057 Rail passenger service extension projects. (1) In this section:
3	(a) "Agency" has the meaning given in s. 16.70 (1e).
4	(b) "Authority" has the meaning given in s. 66.1039 (1) (a).
5	(c) "Rail passenger service extension project" means a project that involves
6	extending an existing rail passenger route, or creating a new rail passenger route,
7	within any corridor between the cities of Milwaukee and Madison.
8	$\textbf{(2)}\ \ Notwith standing ss.\ 85.02\ (1), 85.022, 85.055, 85.06, 85.061, 85.064, 85.067,$
9	85.09, and any other provision of law, no agency or authority may encumber or
10	expend any funds for any aspect of a rail passenger service extension project,
11	including for costs associated with environmental assessments or reports,
12	preliminary engineering or design work, or project construction, unless the project
13	is enumerated under sub. (3).
14	(3) An agency or authority may encumber or expend funds for the following rail
15	passenger service extension projects:
16	(a) No project is enumerated as of the effective date of this paragraph \dots [LRB
17	inserts date].

(END)