

Requested by Senator GORSEK

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
SENATE BILL 16**

1 In line 2 of the printed bill, after “rail” insert “; creating new provisions;  
2 amending ORS 824.016; and declaring an emergency”.

3 Delete lines 4 through 8 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 1.** ORS 824.016 is amended to read:

5 “824.016. (1) The State Rail Rehabilitation Fund is established as an ac-  
6 count in the General Fund of the State Treasury. All moneys in the account  
7 are appropriated continuously to the Department of Transportation for ex-  
8 penditures for any or all of the following:

9 “(a) Acquisition of a railroad line.

10 “(b) Rehabilitation or improvement of rail properties.

11 “(c) Planning for rail services.

12 “(d) Any other methods of reducing the costs of lost rail service in this  
13 state.

14 **“(e) Rail projects, including:**

15 **“(A) Capacity improvements, such as:**

16 **“(i) New or lengthened sidings;**

17 **“(ii) Industrial spur rehabilitation; and**

18 **“(iii) Industrial spur construction;**

19 **“(B) Capital investments that improve safety; and**

20 **“(C) Capital investments that reduce greenhouse gases.**

21 **“(f) Providing state matching funds to leverage federal discretion-**

1 **ary grant funding for rail projects.**

2 “(2) The program developed by the Department of Transportation under  
3 this section to provide funds *[for rail projects]* shall include:

4 “[*(a) Development of a formula for determining a minimum cost to benefit*  
5 *ratio necessary for project funding;*]

6 “[*(b) Supervision and monitoring of railroad acquisitions and the awarding*  
7 *of rehabilitation contracts;*]

8 “[*(c) Continuing inspection of all railroad rehabilitation projects; and]*

9 “[*(d) Auditing financial records of all railroad acquisition and rehabili-*  
10 *tation projects.*]

11 **“(a) Development of a methodology for prioritizing funding that**  
12 **takes into consideration an applicant’s ability to use funding sources**  
13 **to leverage federal discretionary grant funding for rail projects.**

14 **“(b) A requirement that rail projects selected are projects that are**  
15 **consistent with the goals of the Oregon State Rail Plan.**

16 “(3) The Department of Transportation shall provide funds *[for railroad*  
17 *projects]* under this section only with the approval of the Oregon Transpor-  
18 tation Commission.

19 **“(4) The department may use moneys in the fund to pay the**  
20 **department’s administrative costs associated with the fund and with**  
21 **carrying out the provisions of this section.**

22 **“(5) Not later than December 31 of each even-numbered year, the**  
23 **department shall report, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, to the**  
24 **Joint Committee on Transportation regarding the expenditures of**  
25 **moneys in the fund and the status of rail projects that have received**  
26 **moneys from the fund.**

27 **“SECTION 2. (1) The amendments to ORS 824.016 by section 1 of this**  
28 **2023 Act become operative on January 1, 2024.**

29 **“(2) The Department of Transportation may take any action before**  
30 **the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section that is**

1 necessary for the department to carry out, on and after the operative  
2 date specified in subsection (1) of this section, the amendments to ORS  
3 824.016 by section 1 of this 2023 Act.

4 **SECTION 3.** This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate  
5 preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is  
6 declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect on its passage.”.

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