

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 522

BY REPRESENTATIVE TERRY LANDRY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

RAILROADS: Modifies the Freight Railroad Intermodal Grant Program within the Department of Transportation and Development

## 1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 48:388.1(A)(1), (2), and (3)(d), (B), (C), and (D), relative to the  
3 Freight Railroad Intermodal Grant Program; to develop the Railroad Priority Grant  
4 Program; to establish criteria for funding through the grant program; to authorize  
5 monies from the Transportation Trust Fund to be used for the program, subject to  
6 annual appropriation; to provide for rules and regulations for implementation of the  
7 program; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 48:388.1(A)(1), (2), and (3)(d), (B), (C), and (D) are hereby amended  
10 and reenacted to read as follows:

11 §388.1. ~~Freight Railroad Intermodal~~ Railroad Priority Grant Program

12 A.(1) The ~~Freight Railroad Intermodal~~ Railroad Priority Grant Program is  
13 hereby created within the department.

14 (2) Grants through the program shall be made available for ~~intermodal needs~~  
15 ~~of state freight~~ needs of rail services in the state of Louisiana.

16 (3) Funding through the grant program shall be subject to, but not limited to  
17 the following criteria:

18 \* \* \*

19 (d) A fifty percent match provided from ~~other~~ sources other than the  
20 Transportation Trust Fund by the successful candidate for a project.

1           ~~B.(1) The grant program shall be implemented not later than January 1,~~  
2           ~~1998.~~

3           ~~(2) The grant program shall continue for a period of ten years after the date~~  
4           ~~of implementation. The need for continuing the program shall be reevaluated at the~~  
5           ~~end of the initial ten-year program.~~

6           ~~C.B.~~ No Transportation Trust Fund money shall be used for this program,  
7           subject to annual appropriation.

8           ~~D.C.~~ The department shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement  
9           this Section which shall include but not necessarily be limited to:

10           (1) Project submission.

11           (2) Project evaluation, including but not limited to financial feasibility,  
12           benefit/cost analysis, and economic impact.

13           (3) Program administration.

14           (4) Prioritization of projects.

15           (5) Distribution of funding.

16           D. The department shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement the  
17           provisions of this Section.

18           Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
19           signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
20           by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
21           vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
22           effective on the day following such approval.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 522 Original

2017 Regular Session

Terry Landry

**Abstract:** Provides for the development of the Railroad Priority Grant Program within the Dept. of Transportation and Development.

Present law creates the Freight Railroad Intermodal Grant Program and specifies that grants through the program must be made available for intermodal needs of state freight rail services.

Proposed law modifies present law by changing the name of the program to the Railroad Priority Grant Program. Clarifies that grants through the program must be made available for needs of rail services in the state.

Present law provides that grant funding is subject to a 50% match from other sources by the successful candidate for a project.

Proposed law clarifies that the sources of the 50% match in present law has to come from sources other than the Transportation Trust Fund.

Present law requires the grant program be implemented not later than Jan. 1, 1998, for a period of 10 years, and be reevaluated at the end of the initial 10-year period to determine the need for continuing the program.

Proposed law removes present law.

Present law prohibits the use of monies from the Transportation Trust Fund for this program.

Proposed law authorizes the use of monies from the Transportation Trust Fund for this program, subject to annual appropriation.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 48:388.1(A)(1), (2), and (3)(d), (B), (C), and (D))