

**A-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 3401**

Ordered by the House April 15  
Including House Amendments dated April 15

Sponsored by Representatives NATHANSON, GREENLICK; Representatives BARNHART, GOMBERG, Senators EDWARDS, GELSER, MONROE, SHIELDS

**SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Requires Department of Transportation to study options for improving on-time performance of passenger trains [*and freight trains*].

[*Sunsets January 2, 2016.*]

**Directs department to study and make recommendations on options to optimize ridership on passenger trains.**

**Directs department to develop and implement passenger rail plan and provide summary of plan to Legislative Assembly.**

**Directs department to submit quarterly report on performance of passenger rail to Legislative Assembly.**

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to rail transportation efficiency; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Transportation shall study and make recommen-**  
5 **ations on options for improving on-time performance of passenger rail. As part of the study,**  
6 **the department shall:**

7 (a) **Examine modern dispatch systems and protocols;**

8 (b) **Identify infrastructure and technology that will improve on-time performance; and**

9 (c) **Seek and identify potential federal and state funding sources for passenger rail.**

10 (2) **When studying and making recommendations on options as provided under this sec-**  
11 **tion, the department shall consult with railroads, as defined in ORS 824.020, and take into**  
12 **consideration federal and state laws, rules and regulations.**

13 (3) **The department shall report the results of the study required by this section, and**  
14 **may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative**  
15 **Assembly related to transportation in the manner provided under ORS 192.245 no later than**  
16 **November 30, 2015.**

17 **SECTION 2. (1) The Department of Transportation shall study and make recommen-**  
18 **ations on options to optimize ridership on passenger trains. As part of the study, the de-**  
19 **partment shall develop a proposed schedule for trains and buses used by passenger rail**  
20 **carriers.**

21 (2) **When studying and making recommendations on options as provided under this sec-**  
22 **tion, the department shall consider federal and state laws, rules and regulations.**

23 (3) **The department shall report the results of the study required by this section, and**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative  
2 Assembly related to transportation in the manner provided under ORS 192.245 no later than  
3 November 30, 2015.

4 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Department of Transportation shall develop and implement a pas-  
5 senger rail plan for the purposes of increasing ridership on passenger trains and increasing  
6 ticket revenue. The passenger rail plan must include, but is not limited to, the following:

7 (a) A marketing strategy.

8 (b) Strategies for boosting ridership.

9 (c) Strategies for boosting tourism through the use of passenger rail.

10 (2) The department may coordinate with other state agencies to develop the plan.

11 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Transportation shall provide a summary of the passenger  
12 rail plan required by section 3 of this 2015 Act, and may include recommendations for legis-  
13 lation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to transportation in  
14 the manner provided under ORS 192.245 no later than November 30, 2015.

15 **SECTION 5.** The Department of Transportation shall submit a quarterly report on the  
16 performance of passenger rail to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related  
17 to transportation in the manner provided under ORS 192.245. The report must include a  
18 summary of the number of passengers utilizing passenger rail and on-time performance for  
19 the previous quarter.

20 **SECTION 6.** Sections 1, 2 and 4 of this 2015 Act are repealed on January 2, 2016.

21 **SECTION 7.** This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
22 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect  
23 on its passage.  
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