



AN ACT CONCERNING RAIL SERVICE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) As used in this section, "Shore Line
2 East" and "New Haven Line" have the same meanings as provided in
3 section 13b-79o of the general statutes. The Department of
4 Transportation shall (1) restore service on Shore Line East to the same
5 level of service that existed prior to the reduction in service due to the
6 COVID-19 public health emergency and the civil preparedness
7 emergency declared by the Governor on March 10, 2020, (2) purchase
8 and install new rail cars for use on the Waterbury and Danbury
9 branches of the New Haven Line, (3) expand the Danbury branch of
10 the New Haven Line to include the town of New Milford, and (4)
11 expand the Waterbury branch of the New Haven Line to include the
12 towns of Seymour, Shelton and Derby.

13 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Transportation
14 shall study the future of railroads in the state, including, but not
15 limited to, (1) the feasibility of establishing rail service between the
16 towns of Hartford and Middletown, and (2) the feasibility of operating
17 hybrid trains on the Danbury branch of the New Haven Line, as
18 defined in section 13b-78k of the general statutes. On or before
19 February 1, 2024, the commissioner shall submit the results of such
20 study to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
21 cognizance of matters relating to transportation, in accordance with

22 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

23 Sec. 3. Section 13b-79u of the general statutes is repealed and the
24 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

25 (a) The Commissioner of Transportation is authorized and directed,
26 in consultation with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
27 Management and with the approval of the Governor, to enter into any
28 agreements with the National Rail Passenger Corporation or its
29 successor in interest that are necessary for the operation of rail
30 passenger service on the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield rail line.

31 (b) The commissioner is authorized and directed, in consultation
32 with the secretary and with approval of the Governor, to enter into any
33 agreements with the commonwealth of Massachusetts, or any entity
34 authorized to act on its behalf, or the state of Vermont, or any entity
35 authorized to act on its behalf, that are necessary for the state's
36 participation in the provision of rail passenger service on the New
37 Haven-Hartford-Springfield rail line.

38 (c) The commissioner is authorized and directed, in consultation
39 with the secretary and with the approval of the Governor, to select
40 through a competitive process and contract with an operator or
41 operators for rail service on the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield rail
42 line.

43 (d) The commissioner is authorized and directed to select through a
44 competitive process and contract with an operator or operators for rail
45 service on the Shore Line East rail line.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	13b-79u

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1, the first sentence was added to define "Shore Line East" and "New Haven Line" for clarity.

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*