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INITIATIVE AMENDING COLORADO REVISED STATUTES TO CREATE THE COLORADO RAIL AUTHORITY, AKA, THE "RANGER XPRESS"

#114

Purpose and Initiative: This initiative shall create the Colorado Rail Authority, which would build, desing, and/or operate passenger rail – and freight – within the state of Colorado. This daily passenger and freight operation would be titled the "RangerXpress."

Proposed Initiative:

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado that Title 43, Transportation, have a new article providing for the establishment of the Colorado Rail Authority.

The Colorado Rail Authority will be an instrumentality of the State of Colorado, as defined in 24-56-102, with the authority to condemn land via eminent domain powers. The Colorado Rail Authority is an entity that may sue, and be sued. The Colorado Rail Authority may enter into what is commonly known as a build, design, operate contact, if the majority of the board (over 50%) votes to do so.

The Colorado Rail Authority shall be "a body corporate and political subdivision of the state created pursuant to this part 5" as defined in 43-4-503 of the Colorado Revised Statues.

A board of shall be established to govern the Colorado Rail Authority.

The Colorado Rail Authority shall be governed as follows, with members appointed for a 4-year term, by the following methods:

One member appointed by each member of the Colorado Congressional Delegation

One member appointed by each of the Metropolitan Planning Organizations within Colorado

One member appointed by the President of the Colorado Senate

One member appointed Colorado Speaker of the House

Two Members appointed by the Governor of Colorado. If the total number of board members is even, then the governor shall appoint an additional (one) board member.

One member each from the Union Pacific and Burlington-Northern Santa Fe Railroads, and/or their successors.

One member appointed by the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Transportation

One member appointed by the General Manager of Regional Transit District

One member appointed by the District Board of Directors

One member appointed by Colorado Counties Incorporated

One member appointed by Colorado Municipal League

One member appointed from the Colorado Association Of Transit Agencies

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The Board shall hire an Executive Director to run the day-to-day operations of the Colorado Rail Authority, with a majority vote (over 50%). All decisions of the Colorado Rail Authority board shall be determined by a simple majority (over 50% of the board voting in favor.).

As defined in 43-4-606, the Colorado Rail Authority shall be a regional transportation activity enterprise, with all the powers of a regional transportation activity, as defined in 43-4-606.

Board of Directors – Powers and Duties Stating the specifics of the assignment by the Legislature to the CRA Board of Directors, their goals and means of accomplishing same.

The Colorado Rail Authority shall be allowed to operate rental agencies for bicycles and/or automobiles and/or other vehicles, provided that 40% of all motorized vehicles rented were electric and/or hybrid electric vehicles.

The Colorado Rail Authority shall build all new facilities, and restore old facilities, to the LEED standards of

the US Green Building Council (which is currently located at 1800 Massachusetts Avenue Northwest,

Washington, DC 20036), save where the Board of the Colorado Rail Authority votes otherwise.

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To fund the creation of the Colorado Rail Authority a 4/10 of one-cent (.4%) sales tax, for 20 years, shall be established in the state of Colorado. All of said tax collected shall be allocated solely by the Colorado Rail Authority.

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