

STATE OF NEW YORK

3141

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 28, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. ORTIZ -- read once and referred to the
Committee
on Transportation

AN ACT in relation to authorizing the commissioner of transportation
to
conduct a study regarding feasibility of expanding freight
railroad
service within the state

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and
Assem-
bly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The commissioner of transportation is authorized
and
2 directed to conduct a study regarding the feasibility of
expanding
3 freight railroad service within the state. Such study shall focus on
the
4 costs and benefits of such an expansion, and shall include, but
not
5 limited to:
6 1. the economic impact of freight rail service on cities and
other
7 local municipalities;
8 2. the environmental impact of expanded freight railroad
service,
9 including but not limited to:
10 a. the impact of noise on the affected environment resulting
from,
11 engine idling, whistle blowing and general train operation;
12 b. the impact of engine emissions on air quality;
13 c. the impact of such service on local ecosystems and habitats;
14 3. the economic impact of freight railroad service on other
freight
15 delivery carriers;

16 4. the economic costs to repair and maintain expanded freight
railroad
17 service to make it a viable option for freight delivery as compared
to
18 other freight delivery carriers;
19 5. the potential to build additional intermodal railroad yards,
and
20 repair, expand and modernize existing intermodal railroad yards
through-
21 out the state to serve as hubs for the loading and unloading of
freight;
22 6. the availability of capital grants from the federal government
to
23 assist in funding such a project;

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in
brackets

[~~-~~] is old law to be omitted.

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1 7. a general cost benefit analysis regarding the expansion of
freight
2 railroad service within the state; and
3 8. any other information the commissioner of transportation
deems
4 relevant.
5 § 2. A report of the findings of such study and recommendations of
the
6 commissioner of transportation shall be delivered to the governor,
the
7 temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly,
the
8 minority leader of the senate and the minority leader of the
assembly
9 within one year after the effective date of this act.
10 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.