

Amend CSHB 300, Article IX, by adding a new Section 91.0042 to read as follows:

Sec. 91.0042. RAIL RELOCATION ADVISORY GROUP. (a) The rail relocation advisory group is created to advise the department on the implementation and administration of rail relocation and improvement planning and projects.

(b) The advisory group consists of stakeholders in the railroad industry, appointed by the chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security and by the chair of the House Committee on Transportation. The chairs shall determine the number of members appropriate to accomplish the duties of the advisory group.

(c) The advisory group meets at the call of the chairs and shall advise the department on the rail relocation and improvement planning and projects, including strategies for:

- (1) alleviating traffic congestion;
- (2) improving passenger and freight mobility;
- (3) reducing noise in residential areas; and
- (4) mitigating adverse effects on the environment.

(d) The department shall provide administrative support, including staff, as necessary to assist the advisory group in accomplishing its duties.

(e) A member of the advisory group is not entitled to compensation for service on the committee but is entitled to reimbursement of travel expenses incurred by the member while conducting the business of the advisory group, as provided by the General Appropriations Act.