



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 409**

January Session, 2021

House Bill No. 5423

*House of Representatives, April 13, 2021*

The Committee on Transportation reported through REP. LEMAR of the 96th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXPANSION OF PASSENGER TRAIN AND GROUND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES IN EASTERN CONNECTICUT.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Transportation  
2 shall conduct a feasibility study and develop an operational plan to (1)  
3 extend the Shore Line East rail line to the state of Rhode Island, (2)  
4 establish a new branch line to be known as the Norwich Branch Line  
5 with a plan to provide services to the state of Massachusetts at a later  
6 date, (3) consider the usage of electric railcars on such branch lines, (4)  
7 extend ground transportation systems in the eastern region of the state,  
8 (5) provide interconnection between such systems, and (6) establish new  
9 passenger train stations in the town of Groton and the borough of  
10 Stonington. On or before January 1, 2022, the commissioner shall submit  
11 the results of such study and the plan to the joint standing committee of  
12 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
13 transportation, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
14 general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**TRA**      *Joint Favorable*

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 22 \$</b>	<b>FY 23 \$</b>
Department of Transportation	TF - Cost	Up to 2,300,000	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill results in a one-time cost of up to \$2.3 million to the Department of Transportation (DOT) to conduct a feasibility study and develop an operational plan concerning ground transportation services in eastern Connecticut by January 1, 2022. The estimated cost is to hire consultants to perform the analysis and produce the report and is based on similar studies DOT has done. The cost will be dependent on the scope of the study and on the length of time DOT has to conduct the study.

**The Out Years**

The fiscal impact identified above would be a one-time cost for the study.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**HB 5423**

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXPANSION OF PASSENGER TRAIN AND GROUND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES IN EASTERN CONNECTICUT.***

**SUMMARY**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/26/2021)