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May 10, 1990

Law and Legislation Committee
Sacramento, California

**SUBJECT: AB 3436 (Isenberg) re: Railroads: Consolidation
of Facilities and Rail Corridors: Study**

Honorable Members in Session:

SUMMARY

This report presents AB 3436 (Isenberg) for committee action.

BACKGROUND

AB 3436 would require the Department of Transportation to conduct a study of the feasibility of consolidation of railroad freight traffic between Sacramento, Stockton, and the San Francisco Bay area in the rail corridors generally defined by State Highway Routes 5, 80, 99, 205, and 580 for those rail facilities which operate in close proximity and to report thereon to the Legislature by January 1, 1992.

FINANCIAL DATA

None.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

None.

MBE/WBE

None.

Re: AB 3436 (Isenberg) re: Railroads:
Consolidation of Facilities and
Rail Corridors: Study

May 10, 1990

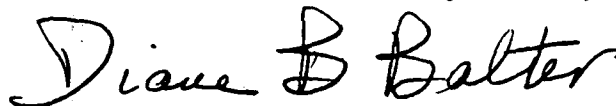
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RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Law and Legislation Committee take action on AB 3436 (Isenberg).

Respectfully submitted,

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Law and Legislation
May 17, 1990
All Districts

Introduced by Assembly Member Isenberg

February 28, 1990

An act relating to transportation, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 3436, as introduced, Isenberg. Railroads: consolidation of facilities and rail corridors: study.

This bill would require the Department of Transportation to conduct a study of the feasibility of consolidation of railroad freight traffic between Sacramento, Stockton, and the San Francisco Bay area in the rail corridors generally defined by State Highway Routes 5, 80, 99, 205, and 580 for those rail facilities which operate in close proximity, including specific matters, and to report thereon to the Legislature by January 1, 1992.

The bill would direct the department to create an advisory committee, of specified representatives, to assist it in the conduct of the study.

The bill would appropriate an unspecified amount from the Transportation Planning and Development Account in the State Transportation Fund to the department for consultant services for purposes of the study.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares
2 that there is significant throughout the state interest in a
3 proposal for the consolidation of railroad freight service
4 with respect to railroad facilities jointly used by two or
5 more railroad corporations both in urban areas and in
6 intercity rail corridors between urban areas.

7 (b) The Legislature further finds and declares that the
8 benefits from a consolidation of railroad freight service
9 include all of the following:

10 (1) The elimination of many grade crossings by
11 reducing the number of railroad lines over which freight
12 is carried, and a reduction of grade crossing accidents
13 involving trains and motor vehicles.

14 (2) Making surplus railroad rights-of-way in urban
15 areas where consolidation is effectuated available for
16 possible urban rail transit projects.

17 (3) More efficient use of the railroad infrastructure in
18 California resulting in economies to shippers, receivers,
19 and carriers, thereby contributing to the efficiency of the
20 state's economy by reducing the cost of freight
21 transportation.

22 (4) By reducing redundant railroad tracks, funds for
23 rehabilitating and upgrading the consolidated railroad
24 lines and related facilities can be more effectively used in
25 the resulting high density travel corridors.

26 (c) In order to study the feasibility of rail line
27 consolidations in the Sacramento-Stockton-San Francisco
28 Bay area, the Legislature has enacted this act.

29 SEC. 2. (a) The Department of Transportation shall
30 conduct a study of the feasibility of the consolidation of
31 railroad freight traffic between Sacramento, Stockton,
32 and the San Francisco Bay area in the rail corridors
33 generally defined by State Highway Routes 5, 80, 99, 205,
34 and 580 for those rail facilities which operate in close
35 proximity. In conducting the study, the department shall
36 do all of the following:

37 (1) Consider the time savings in the movement of
38 railroad freight between Sacramento, Stockton, and the

1 San Francisco Bay area under a consolidated system c
2 rail lines.

3 (2) Consider the short-term and long-term costs and
4 benefits associated with consolidating freight service on
5 one or more rail lines between Sacramento, Stockton, and
6 the San Francisco Bay area.

7 (3) Develop alternative cost-sharing formulae that
8 could be applied to freight service performed by the
9 railroads and passenger service provided by the state
10 through a contract with the National Railroad Passenger
11 Corporation (AMTRAK) to finance any improvements
12 that might be necessary to accommodate the added
13 traffic resulting from consolidation.

14 (4) Identify the costs of improvements that might be
15 needed to consolidate freight service.

16 (5) Consider the long-term implications of adequate
17 intercity rail passenger service between Sacramento,
18 Stockton, and the San Francisco Bay area and to the San
19 Joaquin Valley area.

20 (6) Consider the possibility of surplus railroad
21 rights-of-way becoming available for urban rail transit
22 service as a result of the consolidation of freight traffic
23 onto a single railroad facility.

24 (b) The department shall report its findings
25 conclusions, and recommendations to the Legislature o
26 or before January 1, 1992.

27 SEC. 3. To assist it in the conduct of the study
28 required by Section 2, the department shall create an
29 advisory committee consisting of representatives of the
30 Southern Pacific Transportation Company, the Union
31 Pacific Corporation, the National Railroad Passenger
32 Corporation (AMTRAK), the Sante Fe Pacific
33 Corporation, the Sacramento Regional Transit District,
34 the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District, the
35 Sacramento Council of Governments, and the
36 Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

37 SEC. 4. The sum of _____ dollars (\$_____) is
38 hereby appropriated from the Transportation Planning
39 and Development Account in the State Transportation
40 Fund to the Department of Transportation for consultant

AB 3436

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1 services for purposes of the study required by Section 2
2 of this act.