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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/10/2026	.	
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The Committee on Transportation (Rodriguez) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 351.38, Florida Statutes, is created to
read:

351.38 Railroad crossing safety technology study.—

(1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—

(a) The Legislature finds that improving safety at railroad
crossings is critical to protecting the lives of pedestrians,



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motorists, railway workers, and the general public. Advanced detection and monitoring systems using such technologies as sensors, high-resolution cameras, and data analytics may provide a reliable means to enhance situational awareness and reduce collisions at railroad crossings.

(b) The Legislature further finds that additional analysis is necessary to evaluate the effectiveness, feasibility, costs, and implementation considerations of such systems.

(c) It is the intent of the Legislature to direct the Department of Transportation to study the technologies referenced in paragraph (a) before considering any statewide requirements for their deployment.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Advanced detection and monitoring system" means a system capable of detecting and classifying objects, such as pedestrians, vehicles, or other obstructions at or approaching a railroad crossing, using technologies including, but not limited to, sensors, cameras, and data analytics.

(b) "Hazard assessment" means the process of analyzing detected objects or conditions to determine whether a potential safety risk exists at a railroad crossing.

(c) "Public railroad-highway grade crossing" has the same meaning as provided in s. 335.141(1)(b).

(3) STUDY.—

(a) The Department of Transportation shall conduct a statewide study on the use of advanced detection and monitoring systems at public railroad-highway grade crossings in this state.

(b) The study must include, but is not limited to, an



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analysis of all of the following:

1. Available and emerging advanced detection and monitoring technologies applicable to railroad crossings.

2. The effectiveness of such technologies in improving safety outcomes, including collision prevention and hazard mitigation, based on available data from pilot programs, deployments in other jurisdictions, or academic research.

3. Technical and operational considerations, including interoperability with existing railroad safety systems and operating protocols.

4. Costs associated with the deployment of advanced detection and monitoring systems, including installation, operation, maintenance, and long-term lifecycle costs.

5. Potential funding mechanisms, including federal funds, state funds, grants, or public-private partnerships.

6. Criteria for identifying higher-risk railroad crossings where such technologies may provide the greatest safety benefit.

7. Legal, regulatory, and operational considerations related to the deployment and oversight of advanced detection and monitoring systems.

8. The respective roles of the state, local governments, and railroad owners in the implementation of such systems.

(4) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the department may consult with, as appropriate, any of the following:

(a) Railroad owners and railroad industry representatives.

(b) Local governments with jurisdiction over public railroad-highway grade crossings.

(c) Transportation safety experts and academic institutions.



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(d) Federal agencies or national organizations with expertise in railroad safety.

(5) REPORT.—By December 1, 2026, the department shall submit a report of its findings and any recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report may include policy recommendations for legislative consideration, but may not recommend or require the mandatory installation or upgrade of railroad crossings.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====
And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause
and insert:

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to railroad crossing safety; creating
s. 351.38, F.S.; providing legislative findings and
intent; defining terms; requiring the Department of
Transportation to conduct a statewide study on the use
of advanced detection and monitoring systems at public
railroad-highway grade crossings; providing
requirements for such study; authorizing the
department to consult with certain persons and
entities in conducting the study; requiring the
department to submit a report to the Governor and the
Legislature by a specified date; providing
requirements for such report; providing an effective
date.