



Public Law 91-518  
91st Congress, H. R. 17849  
October 30, 1970

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## An Act

To provide financial assistance for and establishment of a national rail passenger system, to provide for the modernization of railroad passenger equipment, to authorize the prescribing of minimum standards for railroad passenger service, to amend section 13a of the Interstate Commerce Act, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That this Act may be cited as the "Rail Passenger Service Act of 1970".

Rail Passenger  
Service Act of  
1970.

### TITLE I—FINDINGS, PURPOSES, AND DEFINITIONS

84 STAT. 1327  
84 STAT. 1328

#### SEC. 101. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE.

The Congress finds that modern, efficient, intercity railroad passenger service is a necessary part of a balanced transportation system; that the public convenience and necessity require the continuance and improvement of such service to provide fast and comfortable transportation between crowded urban areas and in other areas of the country; that rail passenger service can help to end the congestion on our highways and the overcrowding of airways and airports; that the traveler in America should to the maximum extent feasible have freedom to choose the mode of travel most convenient to his needs; that to achieve these goals requires the designation of a basic national rail passenger system and the establishment of a rail passenger corporation for the purpose of providing modern, efficient, intercity rail passenger service; that Federal financial assistance as well as investment capital from the private sector of the economy is needed for this purpose; and that interim emergency Federal financial assistance to certain railroads may be necessary to permit the orderly transfer of railroad passenger service to a railroad passenger corporation.

#### SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act—

(1) "Railroad" means a common carrier by railroad, as defined in section 1(3) of part I of the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended (49 U.S.C. 1(3)) other than the corporation created by title III of this Act.

41 Stat. 474;  
54 Stat. 899.  
Post, p. 1330.

(2) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Transportation or his delegate unless the context indicates otherwise.

(3) "Commission" means the Interstate Commerce Commission.

(4) "Basic system" means the system of intercity rail passenger service designated by the Secretary under title II and section 403(a) of this Act.

Post, pp. 1329,  
1335.

(5) "Intercity rail passenger service" means all rail passenger service other than (A) commuter and other short-haul service in metropolitan and suburban areas, usually characterized by reduced fare, multiple-ride and commutation tickets, and by morning and evening peak period operations, and (B) auto-ferry service characterized by transportation of automobiles and their occupants where contracts for such service have been consummated prior to enactment of this Act.

(6) "Avoidable loss" means the avoidable costs of providing passenger service, less revenues attributable thereto, as determined by the Interstate Commerce Commission pursuant to the provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code.

80 Stat. 383.

(7) "Corporation" means the National Railroad Passenger Corporation created under title III of this Act.



(8) "Regional transportation agency" means an authority, corporation, or other entity established for the purpose of providing passenger service within a region.

## TITLE II—BASIC NATIONAL RAIL PASSENGER SYSTEM

### SEC. 201. DESIGNATION OF SYSTEM.

In carrying out the congressional findings and declaration of purpose set forth in title I of this Act, the Secretary, acting in cooperation with other interested Federal agencies and departments, is authorized and directed to submit to the Commission and to the Congress within thirty days after the date of enactment of this Act his preliminary report and recommendations for the basic system. Such recommendations shall specify those points between which intercity passenger trains shall be operated, identify all routes over which service may be provided, and the trains presently operated over such routes, together with basic service characteristics of operations to be provided within the basic system, taking into account schedules, number of trains, connections, through car service, and sleeping, parlor, dining, and lounge facilities. In recommending the basic system the Secretary shall take into account the need for expeditious intercity rail passenger service within and between all regions of the continental United States, and the Secretary shall consider the need for such service within the States of Alaska and Hawaii and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. In formulating such recommendations the Secretary shall consider opportunities for provision of faster service, more convenient service, service to more centers of population, and service at lower cost, by the joint operation, for passenger service, of facilities of two or more railroad companies; the importance of a given service to overall viability of the basic system; adequacy of other transportation facilities serving the same points; unique characteristics and advantages of rail service as compared to other modes of transportation; the relationship of public benefits of given services to the costs of providing such services; and potential profitability of the service. The exclusion of a particular route, train, or service from the basic system shall not be deemed to create a presumption that the route, train, or service is not required by public convenience and necessity in any proceeding under section 13a of the Interstate Commerce Act (49 U.S.C. 13a).

### SEC. 202. REVIEW OF THE BASIC SYSTEM.

The Commission, the State Commissions, the representatives of the railroads, and labor organizations duly authorized under the Railway Labor Act to represent railroad employees shall, within thirty days after receipt of the preliminary report of the Secretary designating the basic system, review such report consistent with the purposes of this Act and provide the Secretary with their comments and recommendations in writing. The Secretary shall give due consideration to such comments and recommendations. The Secretary shall, within ninety days after the date of enactment of this Act, submit his final report designating the basic system to the Congress. Such final report shall include a summary of their recommendations together with his reasons for failing to adopt any such recommendation. The basic system as designated by the Secretary shall become effective for the purposes of this Act upon the date that the final report of the Secretary is submitted to Congress and shall not be reviewable in any court.

Preliminary  
report to ICC  
and Congress.

72 Stat. 571.

44 Stat. 577;  
49 Stat. 1189.  
45 USC 151-188.

Final report  
to Congress.

Effective date.



TITLE III—CREATION OF A RAIL PASSENGER  
CORPORATION

## SEC. 301. CREATION OF THE CORPORATION.

There is authorized to be created a National Railroad Passenger Corporation. The Corporation shall be a for profit corporation, the purpose of which shall be to provide intercity rail passenger service, employing innovative operating and marketing concepts so as to fully develop the potential of modern rail service in meeting the Nation's intercity passenger transportation requirements. The Corporation will not be an agency or establishment of the United States Government. It shall be subject to the provisions of this Act and, to the extent consistent with this Act, to the District of Columbia Business Corporation Act. The right to repeal, alter, or amend this Act at any time is expressly reserved.

## SEC. 302. PROCESS OF ORGANIZATION.

The President of the United States shall appoint not fewer than three incorporators, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, who shall also serve as the board of directors for one hundred and eighty days following the date of enactment of this Act. The incorporators shall take whatever actions are necessary to establish the Corporation, including the filing of articles of incorporation, as approved by the President.

## SEC. 303. DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

(a) The Corporation shall have a board of fifteen directors consisting of individuals who are citizens of the United States, of whom one shall be elected annually by the board to serve as chairman. Eight members of the board shall be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, for terms of four years or until their successors have been appointed and qualified, except that the first three members of the board so appointed shall continue in office for terms of two years, and the next three members for terms of three years. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy may be appointed only for the unexpired term of the director whom he succeeds. At all times the Secretary shall be one of the members of the board of directors appointed by the President and at all times at least one such member shall be a consumer representative. Three members of the board shall be elected annually by common stockholders, and four shall be elected annually by preferred stockholders of the Corporation. The members of the board appointed by the President and those elected by common stockholders shall take office on the one hundred and eighty-first day after the date of enactment of this Act. Election of the remaining four members of the board shall take place as soon as practicable after the first issuance of preferred stock by the Corporation. Pending election of the remaining four members, seven members shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting the business of the board. No director appointed by the President may have any direct or indirect financial or employment relationship with any railroad during the time that he serves on the board. Each of the directors not employed by the Federal Government shall receive compensation at the rate of \$300 for each meeting of the board he attends. In addition, each director shall be reimbursed for necessary travel and subsistence expenses incurred in attending the meetings of the board. No director elected by railroads shall vote on any action of the board of directors relating to any contract or operating relationship between the Corporation and a railroad, but he may be present at meetings of the board at which such matters are voted upon, and he may be included for purposes of

68 Stat. 177;  
73 Stat. 242.  
D. C. Code  
29-901.  
Incorporators,  
appointment by  
President.

Board of  
directors.

Conflict of  
interest, pro-  
hibition.  
Compensation,  
travel ex-  
penses.



Bylaws.

determining a quorum and may participate in discussions at any such meeting.

(b) The board of directors is empowered to adopt and amend bylaws governing the operation of the Corporation. Such bylaws shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this Act or of the articles of incorporation.

(c) The articles of incorporation of the Corporation shall provide for cumulative voting for all stockholders and shall provide that, upon conversion of one-fourth of the outstanding shares of preferred stock, the common stockholders shall be entitled to elect four directors and the preferred stockholders shall be entitled to elect three directors; upon the conversion of one-half of the outstanding shares of preferred stock, the common stockholders shall be entitled to elect five directors and the preferred stockholders shall be entitled to elect two directors; upon the conversion of three-fourths of the outstanding shares of preferred stock, the common stockholders shall be entitled to elect six directors and the preferred stockholders shall be entitled to elect one director; and upon conversion of all outstanding shares of preferred stock, the common stockholders shall be entitled to elect seven directors. Any change of directors resulting from such stock conversion shall take effect at the next annual meeting of the Corporation following such stock conversion.

President and officers of corporation.

(d) The Corporation shall have a president and such other officers as may be named and appointed by the board. The rates of compensation of all officers shall be fixed by the board. Officers shall serve at the pleasure of the board. No individual other than a citizen of the United States may be an officer of the Corporation. No officer of the Corporation may have any direct or indirect employment or financial relationship with any railroad during the time of his employment by the Corporation.

#### SEC. 304. FINANCING OF THE CORPORATION.

Stock issues, restriction.

(a) The Corporation is authorized to issue and have outstanding, in such amounts as it shall determine, two issues of capital stock, a common and a preferred, each of which shall carry voting rights and be eligible for dividends. Common stock may be initially issued only to a railroad. Preferred stock may be issued to and held only by any person other than (1) a railroad or (2) any person controlling one or more railroads, as defined in section 1(3)(b) of the Interstate Commerce Act. The articles of incorporation of the Corporation shall provide for the following respective rights of each issue of stock:

54 Stat. 899.  
49 USC 1.

(A) COMMON STOCK.—Common stock shall have a par value of \$10 per share and shall be designated fully paid and non-assessable. No dividends shall be paid on the common stock whenever dividends on the preferred stock are in arrears.

(B) (i) PREFERRED STOCK.—Preferred stock shall have a par value of \$100 per share and shall be designated fully paid and nonassessable. Dividends shall be fixed at a rate not less than 6 per centum per annum, and shall be cumulative so that, if for any dividend period dividends at the rate fixed in the articles of incorporation shall not have been declared and paid or set aside for payment on the preferred shares, the deficiency shall be declared and paid or set apart for payment prior to the making of any dividend or other distribution on the common shares.

(ii) Preferred stock shall be entitled to a liquidation preference over common stock, which shall entitle preferred stockholders to a liquidating payment not less than par value plus all accrued unpaid dividends prior to any payment on liquidation to common stockholders.



(iii) Preferred stock shall be convertible into shares of common stock at such time and upon such terms as the articles of incorporation shall provide.

(b) At no time after the initial issue is completed shall the aggregate of the shares of common stock of the Corporation owned by a single railroad or by any person controlling one or more railroads, as defined in section 1(3)(b) of the Interstate Commerce Act, directly or indirectly through subsidiaries or affiliated companies, nominees, or any person subject to its direction or control, exceed 33 $\frac{1}{3}$  per centum of such shares issued and outstanding.

Stock ownership, limitation.

54 Stat. 899.  
49 USC 1.

(c) At no time may any stockholder, or any syndicate or affiliated group of such stockholders, own more than 10 per centum of the shares of preferred stock of the Corporation issued and outstanding.

(d) The articles of incorporation shall provide that no shares of any issue of stock may be redeemed or repurchased for five years, following the date of enactment of this Act.

(e) The Corporation is authorized to issue, in addition to the stock authorized by subsection (a) of this section, nonvoting securities, bonds, debentures, and other certificates of indebtedness as it may determine.

Bonds, securities, etc., authorization.

(f) The requirement of section 45(b) of the District of Columbia Business Corporation Act (D.C. Code, sec. 29-920(b)) as to the percentage of stock which a stockholder must hold in order to have the rights of inspection and copying set forth in that subsection shall not be applicable in the case of holders of the stock of the Corporation, and they may exercise such rights without regard to the percentage of stock they hold.

Inspection rights requirements, exception.  
68 Stat. 197.

#### SEC. 305. GENERAL POWERS OF THE CORPORATION.

The Corporation is authorized to own, manage, operate, or contract for the operation of intercity trains operated for the purpose of providing modern, efficient, intercity transportation of passengers and to carry mail and express on such trains; to conduct research and development related to its mission; and to acquire by construction, purchase, or gift, or to contract for the use of, physical facilities, equipment, and devices necessary to rail passenger operations. The Corporation shall, consistent with prudent management of the affairs of the Corporation, rely upon railroads to provide the employees necessary to the operation and maintenance of its passenger trains and to the performance of all services and work incidental thereto, to the extent the railroads are able to provide such employees and services in an economic and efficient manner. To carry out its functions and purposes, the Corporation shall have the usual powers conferred upon a stock corporation by the District of Columbia Business Corporation Act.

68 Stat. 179;  
73 Stat. 242.  
D. C. Code  
29-901.

#### SEC. 306. APPLICABILITY OF THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE ACT AND OTHER LAWS.

(a) The Corporation shall be deemed a common carrier by railroad within the meaning of section 1(3) of the Interstate Commerce Act and shall be subject to all provisions of the Interstate Commerce Act other than those pertaining to—

41 Stat. 474;  
54 Stat. 899.  
49 USC 1.

(1) regulation of rates, fares, and charges;

(2) abandonment or extension of lines of railroads utilized solely for passenger service, and the abandonment or extension of operations over such lines of railroads, whether by trackage rights or otherwise;

(3) regulation of routes and service and, except as otherwise provided in this Act, the discontinuance or change of passenger train service operations.



84 STAT. 1333

24 Stat. 379;  
54 Stat. 919.  
49 USC 27 and  
note.

(b) The Corporation shall be subject to the same laws and regulations with respect to safety and with respect to the representation of its employees for purposes of collective bargaining, the handling of disputes between carriers and their employees, employee retirement, annuity and unemployment systems, and other dealings with its employees as any other common carrier subject to part I of the Interstate Commerce Act.

(c) The Corporation shall not be subject to any State or other law pertaining to the transportation of passengers by railroad as it relates to rates, routes, or service.

(d) Leases and contracts entered into by the Corporation, regardless of the place where the same may be executed, shall be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia.

(e) Persons contracting with the Corporation for the joint use or operation of such facilities and equipment as may be necessary for the provision of efficient and expeditious passenger service shall be and are hereby relieved from all prohibitions of existing law, including the antitrust laws of the United States, with respect to such contracts, agreements, or leases insofar as may be necessary to enable them to enter into such contracts and to perform their obligations thereunder.

#### SEC. 307. SANCTIONS.

(a) If the Corporation or any railroad engages in or adheres to any action, practice, or policy inconsistent with the policies and purposes of this Act, obstructs or interferes with any activities authorized by this Act, refuses, fails, or neglects to discharge its duties and responsibilities under this Act, or threatens any such violation, obstruction, interference, refusal, failure, or neglect, the district court of the United States for any district in which the Corporation or other person resides or may be found shall have jurisdiction, except as otherwise prohibited by law, upon petition of the Attorney General of the United States or, in a case involving a labor agreement, upon petition of any employee affected thereby, including duly authorized employee representatives, to grant such equitable relief as may be necessary or appropriate to prevent or terminate any violation, conduct, or threat.

(b) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as relieving any person of any punishment, liability, or sanction which may be imposed otherwise than under this Act.

#### SEC. 308. REPORTS TO THE CONGRESS.

Annual reports.

Legislative  
recommendations.

Biennial  
reports.

(a) The Corporation shall transmit to the President and the Congress, annually, commencing one year from the date of enactment of this Act, and at such other times as it deems desirable, a comprehensive and detailed report of its operations, activities, and accomplishments under this Act, including a statement of receipts and expenditures for the previous year. At the time of its annual report, the Corporation shall submit such legislative recommendations as it deems desirable, including the amount of financial assistance needed for operations and for capital improvements, the manner and form in which the amount of such assistance should be computed, and the sources from which such assistance should be derived.

(b) The Secretary and the Commission shall transmit to the President and the Congress, one year following the date of enactment of this Act and biennially thereafter, reports on the state of rail passenger service and the effectiveness of this Act in meeting the requirement for a balanced national transportation system, together with any legislative recommendations.



## TITLE IV—PROVISION OF RAIL PASSENGER SERVICES

## SEC. 401. ASSUMPTION OF PASSENGER SERVICE BY THE CORPORATION; COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATIONS.

(a) (1) On or before May 1, 1971, the Corporation is authorized to contract and, upon written request therefor from a railroad, shall tender a contract to relieve the railroad, from and after May 1, 1971, of its entire responsibility for the provision of intercity rail passenger service. On or after March 1, 1973, but before January 1, 1975, the Corporation is authorized to contract, and upon written request therefor, shall tender a contract to relieve the railroad of its entire responsibility for the provision of intercity rail passenger service and such relief shall become effective upon the date on which such contract is entered into. Contracts may be entered into on or before May 1, 1971, notwithstanding the fact that the decision of the Commission under section 102(f) of this Act with respect to avoidable loss has not become final. Any contract entered into before such decision of the Commission has become final shall be subject to adjustment to assure that the contract is consistent with such final decision of the Commission. The contract may be made upon such terms and conditions as necessary to permit the Corporation to undertake passenger service on a timely basis. Upon its entering into a valid contract (including protective arrangements for employees), the railroad shall be relieved of all its responsibilities as a common carrier of passengers by rail in intercity rail passenger service under part I of the Interstate Commerce Act or any State or other law relating to the provision of intercity passenger service: *Provided*, That any railroad discontinuing a train hereunder must give notice in accordance with the notice procedures contained in section 13a(1) of the Interstate Commerce Act.

Intercity rail  
passenger serv-  
ice, contracts.

Ante, p. 1328.

24 Stat. 379;  
54 Stat. 919.  
49 USC 27 and  
note.  
72 Stat. 571.  
49 USC 13a.

Passenger serv-  
ice deficit pay-  
ments.

(2) In consideration of being relieved of this responsibility by the Corporation, the railroad shall agree to pay to the Corporation each year for three years an amount equal to one-third of 50 per centum of the fully distributed passenger service deficit of the railroad as reported to the Commission for the year ending December 31, 1969. The payment to the Corporation may be made in cash or, at the option of the Corporation, by the transfer of rail passenger equipment or the provision of future service as requested by the Corporation. Unless the railroad waives all rights to receive stock in exchange for its payments, the railroad shall receive common stock from the Corporation in an amount equivalent in par value to each payment.

(3) In agreeing to pay the amount specified in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a railroad may reserve the right to pay a lesser sum to be determined by calculating either of the following:

(A) 100 per centum of the avoidable loss of all intercity rail passenger service operated by the railroad during the period January 1, 1969, through December 31, 1969; or

(B) 200 per centum of the avoidable loss of the intercity rail passenger service operated by the railroad during the period January 1, 1969, through December 31, 1969, covering all intercity service over the routes between those points between which the Secretary, under sections 201 and 202 of title II of this Act, has specified that intercity passenger trains shall be operated within the basic system.

Ante, p. 1329.

If the amount owed the Corporation under either of these alternatives is agreed by the parties to be less than the amount paid pursuant to paragraph (2), the Corporation shall pay the difference to the railroad and the railroad shall surrender to the Corporation an amount of stock, at par value, equivalent to such payment. If the railroad and the



84 STAT. 1335

Corporation are unable to agree as to the amount owed, the matter shall be referred to the Interstate Commerce Commission for decision. The Commission, upon investigation, shall decide the issue within ninety days following the date of referral, or within such additional time as the Commission may order not to exceed an aggregate of one hundred and eighty days following such date of referral, and its decision shall be binding on both parties.

Payment schedule.

(4) The payments to the Corporation shall be made in accordance with a schedule to be agreed upon between the parties. Unless the parties otherwise agree, the payments for each of the first twelve months following the date on which the Corporation assumes any of the operational responsibilities of the railroad shall be in cash and not less than one thirty-sixth of the amount owed.

Commencement of operations.

(b) On May 1, 1971, the Corporation shall begin the provision of intercity rail passenger service between points within the basic system unless such service is being provided (i) either by a railroad with which it has not entered into a contract under subsection (a) of this section or (ii) by a regional transportation agency, provided such agency gives satisfactory assurance to the Corporation of the agency's financial and operating capability to provide such service, and of its willingness to cooperate with the Corporation and with other regional transportation agencies on matters of through train service, through car service, and connecting train service. The Corporation may at any time subsequent to May 1, 1971, contract with a regional transportation agency to provide intercity rail passenger service between points within the basic system included within the service of such agency.

Prohibition.

(c) No railroad or any other person may, without the consent of the Corporation, conduct intercity rail passenger service over any route over which the Corporation is performing scheduled intercity rail passenger service pursuant to a contract under this section.

#### SEC. 402. FACILITY AND SERVICE AGREEMENTS.

Interstate Commerce Commission, authority.

(a) The Corporation may contract with railroads or with regional transportation agencies for the use of tracks and other facilities and the provision of services on such terms and conditions as the parties may agree. In the event of a failure to agree, the Interstate Commerce Commission shall, if it finds that doing so is necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, order the provision of services or the use of tracks or facilities of the railroad by the Corporation, on such terms and for such compensation as the Commission may fix as just and reasonable, and the rights of the Corporation to such services or to the use of tracks or facilities of the railroad or agency under such order or under an order issued under subsection (b) of this section shall be conditioned upon payment by the Corporation of the compensation fixed by the Commission. If the amount of compensation fixed is not duly and promptly paid, the railroad or agency entitled thereto may bring an action against the Corporation to recover the amount properly owed.

(b) To facilitate the initiation of operations by the Corporation within the basic system, the Commission shall, upon application by the Corporation, require a railroad to make immediately available tracks and other facilities. The Commission shall thereafter promptly proceed to fix such terms and conditions as are just and reasonable.

#### SEC. 403. NEW SERVICE.

(a) The Corporation may provide intercity rail passenger service in excess of that prescribed for the basic system, either within or outside the basic system, including the operation of special and extra passenger trains, if consistent with prudent management. Any intercity rail passenger service provided under this subsection for a continuous period of two years shall be designated by the Secretary as a part of the basic system.



(b) Any State, regional, or local agency may request of the Corporation rail passenger service beyond that included within the basic system. The Corporation shall institute such service if the State, regional, or local agency agrees to reimburse the Corporation for a reasonable portion of any losses associated with such services.

Rail service  
beyond basic  
system.

(c) For purposes of this section the reasonable portion of such losses to be assumed by the State, regional, or local agency, shall be no less than 66⅔ per centum of, nor more than, the solely related costs and associated capital costs, including interest on passenger equipment, less revenues attributable to, such service. If the Corporation and the State, regional, or local agency are unable to agree upon a reasonable apportionment of such losses, the matter shall be referred to the Secretary for decision. In deciding this issue the Secretary shall take into account the intent of this Act, and the impact of requiring the Corporation to bear such losses upon its ability to provide improved service within the basic system.

Reimbursement  
costs.

#### SEC. 404. DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE.

(a) Unless it has entered into a contract with the Corporation pursuant to section 401(a)(1) of this Act, no railroad may discontinue any intercity passenger train whatsoever prior to January 1, 1975, the provisions of any other Act, the laws or constitution of any State, or the decision or order of, or the pendency of any proceeding before, a Federal or State court, agency, or authority to the contrary notwithstanding. On and after January 1, 1975, passenger train service operated by such railroad may be discontinued under the provisions of section 13a of the Interstate Commerce Act. Upon filing of a notice of discontinuance by such railroad, the Corporation may undertake to initiate passenger train operations between the points served.

72 Stat. 571.  
49 USC 13a.

(b)(1) The Corporation must provide the service included within the basic system until July 1, 1973, to the extent it has assumed responsibility for such service by contract with a railroad pursuant to section 401 of this Act.

(2) Except as provided in section 403(a) of this Act, service beyond that prescribed for the basic system undertaken by the Corporation upon its own initiative may be discontinued at any time.

(3) If at any time after July 1, 1973, the Corporation determines that any train or trains in the basic system in whole or in part are not required by public convenience and necessity, or will impair the ability of the Corporation to adequately provide other services, such train or trains may be discontinued under the procedures of section 13a of the Interstate Commerce Act (49 U.S.C. 13a): *Provided, however*, That at least thirty days prior to any change or discontinuance, in whole or in part, of any service under this subsection, the Corporation shall mail to the Governor of each State in which the train in question is operated, and post in every station, depot, or other facility served thereby notice of the proposed change or discontinuance. The Corporation may not change or discontinue this service if prior to the end of the thirty-day notice period, State, regional, or local agencies request continuation of the service and within ninety days agree to reimburse the Corporation for a reasonable portion of any losses associated with the continuation of service beyond the notice period.

Notice to  
Governors of  
change in  
service.

(4) For the purposes of paragraph (3) of this subsection, the reasonable portion of such losses to be assumed by the State, regional, or local agency shall be no less than 66⅔ per centum of, nor more than, the solely related costs and associated capital costs, including interest on passenger equipment, less revenues attributable to, such service. If the Corporation and the State, regional, or local agencies are unable to agree upon a reasonable apportionment of such losses, the matter



shall be referred to the Secretary for decision. In deciding this issue the Secretary shall take into account the purposes of this Act and the impact of requiring the Corporation to bear such losses upon its ability to provide improved service within the basic system.

**SEC. 405. PROTECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR EMPLOYEES.**

(a) A railroad shall provide fair and equitable arrangements to protect the interests of employees affected by discontinuances of intercity rail passenger service whether occurring before, on, or after January 1, 1975.

(b) Such protective arrangements shall include, without being limited to, such provisions as may be necessary for (1) the preservation of rights, privileges, and benefits (including continuation of pension rights and benefits) to such employees under existing collective-bargaining agreements or otherwise; (2) the continuation of collective-bargaining rights; (3) the protection of such individual employees against a worsening of their positions with respect to their employment; (4) assurances of priority of reemployment of employees terminated or laid off; and (5) paid training or retraining programs. Such arrangements shall include provisions protecting individual employees against a worsening of their positions with respect to their employment which shall in no event provide benefits less than those established pursuant to section 5(2)(f) of the Interstate Commerce Act. Any contract entered into pursuant to the provisions of this title shall specify the terms and conditions of such protective arrangements. No contract under section 401(a)(1) of this Act between a railroad and the Corporation may be made unless the Secretary of Labor has certified to the Corporation that the labor protective provisions of such contract afford affected employees fair and equitable protection by the railroad.

(c) After commencement of operations in the basic system, the substantive requirements of subsection (b) of this section shall apply to the Corporation. The certification by the Secretary of Labor that employees affected have been provided fair and equitable protection as required by this section shall be a condition to the completion of any transaction requiring such protection.

(d) The Corporation shall take such action as may be necessary to insure that all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors in the performance of construction work financed with the assistance of funds received under any contract or agreement entered into under this title shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on similar construction in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act. The Corporation shall not enter into any such contract or agreement without first obtaining adequate assurance that required labor standards will be maintained on the construction work. Health and safety standards promulgated by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to section 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 333) shall be applicable to all construction work performed under such contracts or agreements, except any construction work performed by a railroad employee. Wage rates provided for in collective bargaining agreements negotiated under and pursuant to the Railway Labor Act shall be considered as being in compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act.

(e) The Corporation shall not contract out any work normally performed by employees in any bargaining unit covered by a contract between the Corporation or any railroad providing intercity rail passenger service upon the date of enactment of this Act and any labor organization, if such contracting out shall result in the layoff of any employee or employees in such bargaining unit.

54 Stat. 905.  
49 USC 5.

49 Stat. 1011;  
78 Stat. 238.  
40 USC 276a-  
276a-5.

83 Stat. 96.

44 Stat. 577;  
49 Stat. 1189.  
45 USC 151-188.



## TITLE V—ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL INVESTMENT ADVISORY PANEL

### SEC. 501. APPOINTMENT OF ADVISORY PANEL.

Within thirty days after enactment of this Act, the President shall appoint a fifteen-man financial advisory panel. Six members of the panel shall represent the business of investment banking, commercial banking, and rail transportation. Two members shall be representatives of the Secretary of the Treasury and seven members shall represent the public in the various regions of the Nation.

### SEC. 502. PURPOSE OF ADVISORY PANEL.

The advisory panel appointed by the President shall advise the directors of the Corporation on ways and means of increasing capitalization of the Corporation.

### SEC. 503. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

On or before January 1, 1971, the panel shall submit a report to Congress evaluating the initial capitalization of the Corporation and the prospects for increasing its capitalization.

## TITLE VI—FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### SEC. 601. FEDERAL GRANTS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary in fiscal year 1971, \$40,000,000 to remain available until expended, for payment to the Corporation for the purpose of assisting in—

- (1) the initial organization and operation of the Corporation;
- (2) the establishment of improved reservations systems and advertising;
- (3) servicing, maintenance, and repair of railroad passenger equipment;
- (4) the conduct of research and development and demonstration programs respecting new rail passenger services;
- (5) the development and demonstration of improved rolling stock; and
- (6) essential fixed facilities for the operation of passenger trains on lines and routes included in the basic system over which no through passenger trains are being operated at the time of enactment of this Act, including necessary track connections between lines of the same or different railroads.

### SEC. 602. GUARANTY OF LOANS.

The Secretary is authorized, on such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to guarantee any lender against loss of principal or interest on securities, obligations, or loans issued to finance the upgrading of roadbeds and the purchase by the Corporation or agency of new rolling stock, rehabilitation of existing rolling stock and for other corporate purposes. The maturity date of such securities, obligations, or loans, including all extensions and renewals thereof, shall not be later than twenty years from their date of issuance, and the amount of guaranteed loans outstanding at any time may not exceed \$100,000,000. The Secretary shall prescribe and collect from the lending institution a reasonable annual guaranty fee. There are authorized to be appropriated such amounts as necessary to carry out this section not to exceed \$100,000,000.

Maturity date.

Appropriation.



## TITLE VII—INTERIM EMERGENCY FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### SEC. 701. INTERIM AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR RAILROADS OPERATING PASSENGER SERVICE.

(a) For the purpose of permitting a railroad to enter into or carry out a contract entered into under this Act, the Secretary is authorized, on such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to (1) make loans to such railroad, or (2) guarantee any lender against loss of principal or interest on any loan to such railroad.

Conditions.

(b) Before making a loan or a guarantee under this section, the Secretary must find, in writing, that—

(1) the loan or guarantee is necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act;

(2) the proceeds of any loan made or guaranteed under this Act will be used solely to carry out contracts entered into under this Act;

(3) the loan or guarantee is not otherwise available on reasonable terms and conditions; and

(4) there is reasonable assurance that the business affairs of the railroad will be conducted in a prudent manner.

(c) (1) In any case in which there is a liquidation of the assets of any railroad which is the recipient of a loan made or guaranteed under this Act, the United States shall have the first right to redeem that portion of such assets consisting of those rights-of-way, tracks, and other facilities designated by the Secretary to be necessary for the purpose of providing intercity rail passenger service, including services employing innovative technology, within the basic system.

(2) It is the intent of the Congress that, in the case of a loan guarantee under this Act, the United States shall stand in the same position with respect to other creditors as in the case of a direct loan by the United States giving the United States priority over secured and unsecured creditors.

Interest rate,  
determination  
by Treasury  
Secretary.

(d) Interest on loans made under this section shall be at a rate not less than a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, taking into consideration the current average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the average maturity of such loans adjusted to the nearest one-eighth of one per centum.

(e) The maturity date on any loan made or guaranteed under this section, including renewals and extensions thereof, shall not be later than five years from the date of issuance.

(f) The aggregate amount of loans and loan guarantees made under this section shall not exceed \$200,000,000.

### SEC. 702. AUTHORIZATION FOR APPROPRIATIONS.

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such amounts not to exceed \$200,000,000 as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this title. Any sums appropriated shall be available until expended.

## TITLE VIII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

### SEC. 801. ADEQUACY OF SERVICE.

Regulations,  
violation,  
penalty.

The Commission is authorized to prescribe such regulations as it considers necessary to provide safe and adequate service, equipment, and facilities for intercity rail passenger service. Any person who violates a regulation issued under this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of not to exceed \$500 for each violation. Each day a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.



**SEC. 802. EFFECT ON PENDING PROCEEDINGS.**

Upon enactment of this Act, no railroad may discontinue any inter-city rail passenger service whatsoever other than in accordance with the provisions of this Act, notwithstanding the provisions of any other Act, the laws or constitution of any State, or the decision or order of, or the pendency of any proceeding before, any Federal or State court, agency, or authority.

**SEC. 803. SEPARABILITY.**

If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

**SEC. 804. ACCOUNTABILITY.**

Section 201 of the Government Corporation Control Act (31 U.S.C. 856) is amended by striking out "and" immediately preceding "(5)" and by inserting immediately before the period at the end thereof the following: "and (6) the National Railroad Passenger Corporation".

59 Stat. 600;  
70 Stat. 667.

**SEC. 805. RECORDS AND AUDIT OF THE CORPORATION.**

(1) (A) The accounts of the Corporation shall be audited annually in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by independent certified public accountants or independent licensed public accountants certified or licensed by a regulatory authority of a State or other political subdivision of the United States. The audit shall be conducted at the place or places where the accounts of the Corporation are normally kept. All books, accounts, financial records, reports, files, and other papers, things, or property belonging to or in use by the Corporation and necessary to facilitate the audit shall be made available to the person conducting the audit; and full facilities for verifying transactions with the balances or securities held by depositories, fiscal agents, and custodians shall be afforded to such person.

Annual audit  
by independent  
accountants.

(B) The report of each such independent audit shall be included in the annual report required by section 308(a) of this Act. The audit report shall set forth the scope of the audit and include such statements as are necessary to present fairly the Corporation's assets and liabilities, surplus or deficit, with an analysis of the changes therein during the year, supplemented in reasonable detail by a statement of the Corporation's income and expenses during the year, and a statement of the sources and application of funds, together with the independent auditor's opinion of those statements.

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gress, contents.  
Ante, p. 1333.

(2) (A) The financial transactions of the Corporation for any fiscal year during which Federal funds are available to finance any portion of its operations may be audited by the Comptroller General of the United States in accordance with the principles and procedures applicable to commercial corporate transactions and under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Comptroller General. Any such audit shall be conducted at the place or places where accounts of the Corporation are normally kept. The representative of the Comptroller General shall have access to all books, accounts, records, reports, files, and other papers, things, or property belonging to or in use by the Corporation pertaining to its financial transactions and necessary to facilitate the audit, and they shall be afforded full facilities for verifying transactions with the balances or securities held by depositories, fiscal agents, and custodians. All such books, accounts, records, reports, files, papers, and property of the Corporation shall remain in possession and custody of the Corporation.

Audit by  
Comptroller  
General.

Records,  
availability.

(B) A report of each such audit shall be made by the Comptroller General to the Congress. The report to the Congress shall contain such comments and information as the Comptroller General may

Report to Con-  
gress, contents.



Reports, copy  
to President.

deem necessary to inform Congress of the financial operations and condition of the Corporation, together with such recommendations with respect thereto as he may deem advisable. The report shall also show specifically any program, expenditure, or other financial transaction or undertaking observed in the course of the audit, which, in the opinion of the Comptroller General, has been carried on or made without authority of law. A copy of each report shall be furnished to the President, to the Secretary, and to the Corporation at the time submitted to the Congress.

#### TITLE IX—TAX DEDUCTION FOR CERTAIN PAYMENTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

68A Stat. 72;  
83 Stat. 612.  
26 USC 241-249.

SEC. 901. (a) Part VIII of subchapter B of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (relating to special deductions for corporations) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

#### “SEC. 250. CERTAIN PAYMENTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION.

“(a) GENERAL RULE.—If—

41 Stat. 474;  
54 Stat. 899.

“(1) any corporation which is a common carrier by railroad (as defined in section 1(3) of the Interstate Commerce Act (49 U.S.C. 1(3))) makes a payment in cash, rail passenger equipment, or services to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (hereinafter in this section referred to as the ‘Passenger Corporation’) pursuant to a contract entered into under section 401(a) of the Rail Passenger Service Act of 1970, and

“(2) no stock in the Passenger Corporation is issued at any time to such corporation in connection with any contract entered into under such section 401(a),

then the amount of such payment shall (subject to subsection (c)) be allowed as a deduction for the taxable year in which it is made.

“(b) WHEN PAYMENT IS MADE.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary or his delegate, a payment in rail passenger equipment shall be treated as made when title to the equipment is transferred, and a payment in services shall be treated as made when the services are rendered.

“(c) EFFECT OF CERTAIN SUBSEQUENT ACQUISITIONS OF STOCK.—

70 Stat. 402;  
68A Stat. 124.  
26 USC 374, 381.

“(1) DISALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTIONS.—If any deduction has been allowed under subsection (a) to a corporation and such corporation (or a successor corporation) acquires any stock in the Passenger Corporation (other than in a transaction described in section 374 or 381) before the close of the 36-month period which begins with the day on which the last payment is made to the Passenger Corporation pursuant to the contract entered into under such section 401(a), then such deduction shall be disallowed (as of the close of the taxable year for which it was allowed under subsection (a)).

68A Stat. 803.  
26 USC 6501,  
6502.

“(2) COLLECTION OF DEFICIENCY.—If any deduction is disallowed by reason of paragraph (1), then the periods of limitation provided in sections 6501 and 6502 on the making of an assessment and the collection by levy or a proceeding in court shall, with respect to any deficiency (including interest and additions to the tax) resulting from such a disallowance, include one year following the date on which the person acquiring the stock which results in the disallowance (in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary or his delegate) notifies the Secretary or his delegate of such acquisition; and such assessment and col-



lection may be made notwithstanding any provision of law or rule of law which otherwise would prevent such assessment and collection.

“(d) MEMBERS OF CONTROLLED GROUP.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary or his delegate, if a corporation is a member of a controlled group of corporations (within the meaning of section 1563), subsections (a) (2) and (c) shall be applied by treating all members of such controlled group as one corporation.”

78 Stat. 120;  
83 Stat. 602.  
26 USC 1563.

(b) The table of sections for such part VIII is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

“Sec. 250. Certain payments to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation.”

(c) The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act. Effective date.

Approved October 30, 1970.

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 91-1580 (Comm. on Interstate and Foreign Commerce).  
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 116 (1970):

Oct. 13, 14, considered and passed House.

Oct. 14, considered and passed Senate.