Calendar No. 221

104TH CONGRESS S. 1318

[Report No. 104-157]

A BILL

To reform the statutes relating to Amtrak, to authorize appropriations for Amtrak, and for other purposes.

November 2, 1995

Reported with an amendment

Calendar No. 221

104TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. 1318

[Report No. 104-157]

To reform the statutes relating to Amtrak, to authorize appropriations for Amtrak, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

October 12 (legislative day, October 10), 1995

Mr. Pressler, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, reported the following original bill; which was read twice and placed on the calendar

October 19 (legislative day, October 18), 1995

Ordered referred to the Committee on Finance solely for the consideration of title X, for a period not to exceed 15 calendar days to report or be discharged

NOVEMBER 2, 1995
Reported by Mr. Roth, with an amendment
[Omit the part struck through]

A BILL

To reform the statutes relating to Amtrak, to authorize appropriations for Amtrak, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

- 2 This Act may be cited as the "Amtrak and Local Rail
- 3 Revitalization Act of 1995".
- 4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

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- 5 The Congress finds that—
- (1) intercity rail passenger service is an essential component of a national intermodal passenger
 transportation system, and the National Railroad
 Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) must provide a
 quality transportation product in the form of clean,
 comfortable, and on-time service to achieve its full
 potential;
 - (2) Amtrak has been forced to significantly cut back its basic system due to cash shortages, and further cutback may be required unless Amtrak is able to reduce its costs and increase its revenues;
 - (3) to ensure Amtrak's long-term viability as a provider of intercity rail passenger service, all of Amtrak's stakeholders must participate in efforts to reduce Amtrak's costs and increase its revenues;
 - (4) additional management flexibility is needed to allow Amtrak to operate in a businesslike manner in order to adjust quickly to meet demand and changing customer needs;
- 25 (5) Amtrak's management and employees are 26 dedicated to providing the high-quality service that

- Amtrak's customers deserve but additional capital investment is needed to acquire the modern equipment and efficient facilities that are essential to satisfy the demand for superior intercity rail passenger service;
 - (6) adequate levels of capital investment from the Federal Government and State governments and innovative partnerships with the private sector will enable Amtrak to provide the world class service American rail passengers deserve and will help reduce operating costs in the long term;
 - (7) Amtrak's management should be held accountable to ensure that all capital investment by the Federal Government and State governments is used effectively to improve the quality of service and the long-term financial health of Amtrak;
 - (8) Amtrak's employees should share equitably in the burden of restoring Amtrak to financial health;
 - (9) States, local governments, and private parties can and should play an increasingly significant role in supporting cost-efficient intercity rail passenger transportation and in addressing local transportation needs and air quality control;

- 1 (10) mandatory payments reflecting funds paid 2 into the railroad retirement and railroad unemploy-3 ment systems on Amtrak's behalf in excess of the 4 funds needed to pay retirement and unemployment 5 benefits for Amtrak's employees and their bene-6 ficiaries should not be considered a Federal operat-7 ing subsidy of Amtrak;
 - (11) Federal financial assistance to cover operating losses incurred by Amtrak should be eliminated by the year 2001;
 - (12) Amtrak and its employees should proceed quickly with proposals to modify collective bargaining agreements to make more efficient use of manpower and to realize cost savings which are necessary to eliminate Federal financial assistance to cover its operating losses by the fiscal year following the fifth anniversary of the date of enactment of this Act; and
 - (13) Amtrak should ensure that new management flexibility produces cost savings without compromising safety.

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1 TITLE I—PROCUREMENT 2 REFORMS

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3	SEC. 101. CONTRACTING OUT.
4	(a) Contracting Out Reform.—Effective 180
5	days after the date of enactment of this Act, section 24312
6	of title 49, United States Code, is amended—
7	(1) by striking the paragraph designation for
8	paragraph (1) of subsection (a);
9	(2) by striking "(2)" in subsection (a)(2) and
10	inserting "(b)"; and
11	(3) by striking subsection (b).
12	The amendment made by paragraph (3) is without preju-
13	dice to the power of Amtrak to contract out the provision
14	of food and beverage services on board Amtrak trains or
15	to contract out work not resulting in the layoff of Amtrak
16	employees.
17	(b) Negotiation of Contracting Out Rules.—
18	(1) In general.—Within 5 days after the date
19	of enactment of this Act, Amtrak and its labor orga-
20	nizations shall meet to resolve the issue of under
21	what conditions, if any, Amtrak may contract out
22	work normally performed by an employee in a bar-
23	gaining unit covered by a contract between Amtrak
24	and its labor organizations when the contracting out
25	results in the layoff of employees in the bargaining

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- unit. The issue for negotiation under this paragraph does not include the contracting out of work involving food and beverage services provided on Amtrak trains or the contracting out of work not resulting in the layoff of Amtrak employees.
 - (2) Assisted negotiations if issue unre-SOLVED WITHIN 90 DAYS.—If the parties negotiating under paragraph (1) are unable to resolve the issue within 90 days after such date of enactment, they shall each select a neutral person from the list of National Mediation Board arbitrators. The persons selected shall meet and select an arbitrator who will assist the parties in their discussions and arbitrate the dispute if the parties fail to negotiate a resolution of the issue. If the National Mediation Board is not informed of the selection of the arbitrator within 120 days after such date of enactment, the National Mediation Board will immediately select the arbitrator for the issue in dispute. One half of the expenses of the neutral persons and the arbitrator selected under this paragraph will be borne by Amtrak, and the other half by the labor organizations jointly.
 - (3) Hearing scheduled.—If the issue remains unresolved 120 days after such date of enact-

- ment, the arbitrator selected under paragraph (2) shall schedule a hearing to be held 150 days after such date of enactment and shall meet with the parties to mediate the issue before the hearing.
 - (4) Last Best offers.—If the issue has not been resolved before the date of the hearing scheduled under paragraph (3), each party involved in the negotiation shall submit its last best offer to the arbitrator at the time of the hearing.
 - (5) Hearing procedure.—At the hearing, the arbitrator shall receive the arguments and supporting evidence for the positions of the parties, as well as any clarifications of last best offers submitted by the parties. All materials to be reviewed by the arbitrator shall be presented at the hearing.

(6) AWARD.—

(A) In General.—Within 170 days after such date of enactment, the arbitrator will select either of the last best offers and render an award resolving the issue. The authority of the arbitrator is limited to resolving the issue presented by the hearing. The award will take effect on the 180th day after such date of enactment, and, except as provided in subparagraph (B) shall be final and binding on all parties.

1	(B) CONTEST OF AWARD.—The United
2	States District Court for the District of Colum-
3	bia has exclusive jurisdiction to hear an action
4	contesting an award under subparagraph (A).
5	The court may not set aside or modify such an
6	award except on—
7	(i) the grounds that the proceeding or
8	the award plainly does not conform to the
9	substantive requirements of this section; or
10	(ii) grounds set forth in section 9
11	Third (c) of the Railway Labor Act (45
12	U.S.C. 159 Third (c)).
13	Except as otherwise provided in this section,
14	the provisions of section 9 of such Act (45
15	U.S.C. 159) govern any contest of an award
16	under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.
17	(C) AWARD SUPERSEDES EXISTING COL-
18	LECTIVE BARGAINING ARRANGEMENTS.—An
19	award under subparagraph (A) supersedes any
20	collective bargaining agreement entered into be-
21	fore the award is made, and any practice in ef-
22	fect before the award is made, to the extent
23	that such agreement or practice is inconsistent
24	with the award or limits the right to engage in
25	subcontracting under the award.

- 1 (7) AMENDMENT OF AWARD.—The award re-
- 2 mains in effect until amended by mutual agreement
- 3 of the parties. Notices under section 6 of the Rail-
- 4 way Labor Act to amend the award may not be
- 5 served until 30 days before the end of the third year
- 6 after the effective date of the award.
- 7 (b) No Precedent for Freight.—Nothing in this
- 8 section shall be a precedent for the resolution of any dis-
- 9 pute between a freight railroad and any labor organization
- 10 representing that railroad's employees.

11 SEC. 102. CONTRACTING PRACTICES.

- 12 (a) Below-Cost Competition.—Section 24305(b)
- 13 of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as
- 14 follows:
- 15 "(b) Below-Cost Competition.—Amtrak shall not
- 16 submit any bid for the performance of services under a
- 17 contract for an amount less than the cost to Amtrak of
- 18 performing such services, with respect to any activity
- 19 other than the provision of intercity rail passenger trans-
- 20 portation, or mail or express transportation. For purposes
- 21 of this subsection, the cost to Amtrak of performing serv-
- 22 ices shall be determined using generally accepted account-
- 23 ing principles for contracting. This subsection shall not
- 24 apply for any fiscal year for which Amtrak receives no
- 25 Federal subsidy.".

- 1 (b) Through Service in Conjunction With
- 2 Intercity Bus Operations.—Section 24305(a) of title
- 3 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
- 4 the following new paragraph:
- 5 "(3)(A) Except as provided in subsection (d)(2), Am-
- 6 trak may enter into a contract with a motor carrier of
- 7 passengers for the intercity transportation of passengers
- 8 by motor carrier over regular routes only—
- 9 "(i) if the motor carrier is not a public recipient
- of governmental assistance, as such term is defined
- in section 10922(d)(1)(F)(i) of this title, other than
- a recipient of funds under section 18 of the Federal
- 13 Transit Act;
- 14 "(ii) for passengers who have had prior move-
- ment by rail or will have subsequent movement by
- 16 rail; and
- 17 "(iii) if the buses, when used in the provision
- of such transportation, are used exclusively for the
- transportation of passengers described in clause (ii).
- 20 "(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to transpor-
- 21 tation funded predominantly by a State or local govern-
- 22 ment, or to ticket selling agreements.".
- 23 (2) Section 24305(d) of title 49, United States Code,
- 24 is amended by adding at the end the following new para-
- 25 graph:

- 1 "(3) Congress encourages Amtrak and motor com-
- 2 mon carriers of passengers to use the authority conferred
- 3 in section 11342(a) of this title for the purpose of provid-
- 4 ing improved service to the public and economy of oper-
- 5 ation.".

6 SEC. 103. RAIL AND MOTOR CARRIER PASSENGER SERVICE.

- 7 (a) In General.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
- 8 sion of law (other than section 24305(a) of title 49, United
- 9 States Code), Amtrak and motor carriers of passengers
- 10 are authorized—
- 11 (1) to combine or package their respective serv-
- ices and facilities to the public as a means of in-
- 13 creasing revenues; and
- 14 (2) to coordinate schedules, routes, rates, res-
- ervations, and ticketing to provide for enhanced
- intermodal surface transportation.
- 17 (b) Review.—The authority granted by subsection
- 18 (a) is subject to the review of the Interstate Commerce
- 19 Commission and such authority may be modified or re-
- 20 voked by the Interstate Commerce Commission if in the
- 21 public interest.

22 SEC. 104. WORLD CLASS SERVICE.

- Section 24101(c) of title 49, United States Code, is
- 24 amended by redesignating paragraphs (10) and (11) as

- 1 (12) and (13), respectively, and by inserting after para-
- 2 graph (9) the following:
- 3 "(10) manage capital investment in such a way
- 4 as to provide customers with world class service;
- 5 "(11) treat all passengers with respect, cour-
- 6 tesy, and dignity;".

7 SEC. 105. PASSENGER CHOICE.

- 8 Federal employees shall be permitted to choose travel
- 9 on Amtrak for official business where total travel cost
- 10 from office to office is competitive on a total trip or time
- 11 basis.
- 12 SEC. 106. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.
- Section 24301(e) of title 49, United States Code, is
- 14 amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "Sec-
- 15 tion 552 of title 5, United States Code, shall apply to Am-
- 16 trak in any fiscal year for which Amtrak receives a Fed-
- 17 eral operating subsidy.".

18 TITLE II—OPERATIONAL

19 **REFORMS**

- 20 SEC. 201. BASIC SYSTEM.
- 21 (a) Operation of Basic System.—Amtrak shall
- 22 strive to operate as a national rail passenger transpor-
- 23 tation system which provides access to all areas of the
- 24 country and ties together existing and emergent regional

- 1 rail passenger networks and other intermodal passenger
- 2 service.
- 3 (b) Improving Rail Passenger Transpor-
- 4 TATION.—Section 24702 of title 49, United States Code,
- 5 and the item relating thereto in the table of sections of
- 6 chapter 247 of such title, are repealed.
- 7 (c) DISCONTINUANCE.—Section 24706 of title 49,
- 8 United States Code, is amended—
- 9 (1) by striking "90 days" and inserting "180
- days" in subsection (a)(1);
- 11 (2) by striking "a discontinuance under section
- 12 24704 or 24707(a) or (b) of this title" in subsection
- 13 (a)(1) and inserting "discontinuing service over a
- route";
- 15 (3) by inserting "or assume" after "agree to
- share" in subsection (a)(1); and
- 17 (4) by striking "section 24704 or 24707(a) or
- (b) of this title" in subsections (a)(2) and (b)(1) and
- inserting "paragraph (1)".
- 20 (d) Cost and Performance Review.—Section
- 21 24707 of title 49, United States Code, and the item relat-
- 22 ing thereto in the table of sections of chapter 247 of such
- 23 title, are repealed.
- 24 (e) Special Commuter Transportation.—Section
- 25 24708 of title 49, United States Code, and the item relat-

- 1 ing thereto in the table of sections of chapter 247 of such
- 2 title, are repealed.
- 3 (f) Conforming Amendment.—Section
- 4 24312(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended
- 5 by striking ", 24701(a),".
- 6 SEC. 202. MAIL, EXPRESS, AND AUTO-FERRY TRANSPOR-
- 7 TATION.
- 8 (a) Repeal.—Section 24306 of title 49, United
- 9 States Code, and the item relating thereto in the table of
- 10 sections of chapter 243 of such title, are repealed.
- 11 (b) Conforming Amendment.—Section 24301 of
- 12 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
- 13 end the following new subsection:
- 14 "(o) Nonapplication of Certain Other Laws.—
- 15 State and local laws and regulations that impair the provi-
- 16 sion of mail, express, and auto-ferry transportation do not
- 17 apply to Amtrak or a rail carrier providing mail, express,
- 18 or auto-ferry transportation.".
- 19 SEC. 203. ROUTE AND SERVICE CRITERIA.
- Section 24703 of title 49, United States Code, and
- 21 the item relating thereto in the table of sections of chapter
- 22 247 of such title, are repealed.

1 SEC. 204. ADDITIONAL QUALIFYING ROUTES.

- 2 Section 24705 of title 49, United States Code, and
- 3 the item relating thereto in the table of sections of chapter
- 4 247 of such title, are repealed.
- 5 SEC. 205. TRANSPORTATION REQUESTED BY STATES, AU-
- 6 THORITIES, AND OTHER PERSONS.
- 7 (a) Repeal.—Section 24704 of title 49, United
- 8 States Code, and the item relating thereto in the table of
- 9 sections of chapter 247 of such title, are repealed.
- 10 (b) Existing Agreements.—Amtrak shall not,
- 11 after the date of the enactment of this Act, be required
- 12 to provide transportation services pursuant to an agree-
- 13 ment entered into before such date of enactment under
- 14 the section repealed by subsection (a) of this section.
- 15 (c) State, Regional, and Local Cooperation.—
- 16 Section 24101(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is
- 17 amended by inserting ", separately or in combination,"
- 18 after "and the private sector".
- 19 (d) Conforming Amendment.—Section
- 20 24312(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended
- 21 by striking "or 24704(b)(2)".
- 22 SEC. 206. AMTRAK COMMUTER.
- 23 (a) Repeal of Chapter 245.—Chapter 245 of title
- 24 49, United States Code, and the item relating thereto in
- 25 the table of chapters of subtitle V of such title, are re-
- 26 pealed.

1	(b) Conforming Amendment.—Section 24301(f) of
2	title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as fol-
3	lows:
4	"(f) Tax Exemption for Certain Commuter Au-
5	THORITIES.—A commuter authority that was eligible to
6	make a contract with Amtrak Commuter to provide com-
7	muter rail passenger transportation but which decided to
8	provide its own rail passenger transportation beginning
9	January 1, 1983, is exempt, effective October 1, 1981,
10	from paying a tax or fee to the same extent Amtrak is
11	exempt.".
12	(c) Trackage Rights Not Affected.—Subsection
13	(a) of this section shall not affect any trackage rights held
	(a) of this section shall not affect any trackage rights held by Amtrak or the Consolidated Rail Corporation.
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14 15	by Amtrak or the Consolidated Rail Corporation.
14 15 16	by Amtrak or the Consolidated Rail Corporation. SEC. 207. COMMUTER COST SHARING ON THE NORTHEAST
14 15 16 17	by Amtrak or the Consolidated Rail Corporation. SEC. 207. COMMUTER COST SHARING ON THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR.
14 15 16 17	by Amtrak or the Consolidated Rail Corporation. SEC. 207. COMMUTER COST SHARING ON THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR. (a) DETERMINATION OF COMPENSATION.—(1) Sec-
14 15 16 17 18	by Amtrak or the Consolidated Rail Corporation. SEC. 207. COMMUTER COST SHARING ON THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR. (a) DETERMINATION OF COMPENSATION.—(1) Section 24904(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	by Amtrak or the Consolidated Rail Corporation. SEC. 207. COMMUTER COST SHARING ON THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR. (a) DETERMINATION OF COMPENSATION.—(1) Section 24904(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	by Amtrak or the Consolidated Rail Corporation. SEC. 207. COMMUTER COST SHARING ON THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR. (a) DETERMINATION OF COMPENSATION.—(1) Section 24904(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is amended— (A) by striking "between intercity rail pas-
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	by Amtrak or the Consolidated Rail Corporation. SEC. 207. COMMUTER COST SHARING ON THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR. (a) DETERMINATION OF COMPENSATION.—(1) Section 24904(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is amended— (A) by striking "between intercity rail passenger and rail freight transportation" and inserting

after "Commission shall assign to a".

- 1 (2) The amendments made by paragraph (1) of this
- 2 subsection shall take effect 2 years after the date of the
- 3 enactment of this Act.
- 4 (b) Privatization.—Section 24101(d) of title 49,
- 5 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 6 "(d) Minimizing Government Subsidies.—To
- 7 carry out this part, Amtrak is encouraged to make agree-
- 8 ments with the private sector and undertake initiatives
- 9 that are consistent with good business judgment, that
- 10 produce income to minimize Government subsidies, and
- 11 that promote the potential privatization of Amtrak's oper-
- 12 ations.".

13 SEC. 208. ACCESS TO RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS.

- 14 Section 24315 of title 49, United States Code, is
- 15 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
- 16 section:
- 17 "(h) Access to Records and Accounts.—A State
- 18 shall have access to Amtrak's records, accounts, and other
- 19 necessary documents used to determine the amount of any
- 20 payment to Amtrak required of the State.".

21 TITLE III—EMPLOYEE

22 **PROTECTION REFORMS**

- 23 SEC. 301. SERVICE DISCONTINUANCE.
- 24 (a) Repeal.—Section 24706(c) of title 49, United
- 25 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

1	"(c) Employee Protection.—Notwithstanding any
2	arrangement in effect before the enactment of the Amtrak
3	and Local Rail Revitalization Act of 1995—
4	"(1) an employee of Amtrak shall be entitled to
5	protective benefits only if deprived of employment as
6	a result of a discontinuance of intercity rail pas-
7	senger service or other transaction creating an enti-
8	tlement to such benefits;
9	"(2) the total amount of protective payments
10	shall not exceed 6 months' pay; and
11	"(3) fringe benefits shall not be continued in
12	excess of 6 months or the minimum period estab-
13	lished by other Federal law for such benefits, which-
14	ever is longer.".
15	(b) Intercity Passenger Service Employees.—
16	Section 1165(a) of the Northeast Rail Service Act of 1981
17	(45 U.S.C. 1113(a)) is amended—
18	(1) by inserting "(1)" before "After January 1,
19	1983'';
20	(2) by striking "Amtrak, Amtrak Commuter,
21	and Conrail" and inserting "Amtrak and Conrail";
22	(3) by striking "Such agreement shall ensure"
23	and all that follows through "submitted to binding
24	arbitration."; and

- 1 (4) by adding at the end the following new 2 paragraph:
- 3 "(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
- 4 agreement, or arrangement, with respect to employees in
- 5 any class or craft in train or engine service, Conrail shall
- 6 have the right to furlough one such employee for each em-
- 7 ployee in train or engine service who moves from Amtrak
- 8 to Conrail in excess of the cumulative number of such em-
- 9 ployees who move from Conrail to Amtrak. Conrail shall
- 10 not be obligated to fill any position governed by an agree-
- 11 ment concerning crew consist, attrition arrangements, re-
- 12 serve boards, or reserve engine service positions, where an
- 13 increase in positions is the result of the return of an Am-
- 14 trak employee pursuant to an agreement entered into
- 15 under paragraph (1). Conrail's collective bargaining agree-
- 16 ments with organizations representing its train and engine
- 17 service employees shall be deemed to have been amended
- 18 to conform to this paragraph. Any dispute or controversy
- 19 with respect to the interpretation, application, or enforce-
- 20 ment of this paragraph which has not been resolved within
- 21 90 days after the date of the enactment of this paragraph
- 22 may be submitted by either party to an adjustment board
- 23 for a final and binding decision under section 3 of the
- 24 Railway Labor Act.".

- 1 (c) Technical Amendment.—Section 11347 of
- 2 title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "sec-
- 3 tions 24307(c), 24312, and" and inserting "section".

4 TITLE IV—USE OF RAILROAD

5 **FACILITIES**

- 6 SEC. 401. LIABILITY LIMITATION.
- 7 (a) AMENDMENT.—Chapter 281 of title 49, United
- 8 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-
- 9 ing new section:
- 10 "§ 28103. Limitations on rail passenger transpor-
- 11 **tation liability**
- 12 "(a) Limitations.—
- 13 "(1) Notwithstanding any other statutory or
- common law or public policy, or the nature of the
- conduct giving rise to damages or liability, a con-
- tract between Amtrak and its passengers, the Alaska
- 17 Railroad and its passengers, or private railroad car
- operators and their passengers regarding claims for
- 19 personal injury, death, or damage to property aris-
- ing from or in connection with the provision of rail
- 21 passenger transportation, or from or in connection
- 22 with any operations over or use of right-of-way or
- facilities owned, leased, or maintained by Amtrak or
- 24 the Alaska Railroad, or from or in connection with
- any rail passenger transportation operations over or

1	rail passenger transportation use of right-of-way or
2	facilities owned, leased, or maintained by any high-
3	speed railroad authority or operator, any commuter
4	authority or operator, or any rail carrier shall be en-
5	forceable if—
6	"(A) punitive or exemplary damages,
7	where permitted, are not limited to less than 2
8	times compensatory damages awarded to any
9	claimant by any State or Federal court or ad-
10	ministrative agency, or in any arbitration pro-
11	ceeding, or in any other forum or \$250,000,
12	whichever is greater;
13	"(B) passengers are provided adequate no-
14	tice of any such contractual limitation or waiver
15	or choice of forum; and
16	"(C) passengers are given an opportunity
17	to purchase supplemental insurance coverage
18	when a ticket is purchased or at point of depar-
19	ture.
20	"(2) For purposes of this subsection, the term
21	'claim' means a claim made directly or indirectly—
22	"(A) against Amtrak, any high-speed rail-
23	road authority or operator, any commuter au-
24	thority or operator, or any rail carrier including

- the Alaska Railroad or private rail car operators; or
- "(B) against an affiliate engaged in railroad operations, officer, employee, or agent of, Amtrak, any high-speed railroad authority or operator, any commuter authority or operator, or any rail carrier.
- 8 "(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1)(A), if, in 9 any case in which death was caused, the law of the 10 place where the act or omission complained of oc-11 curred provides, or has been construed to provide, 12 for damages only punitive in nature, a claimant may 13 recover in a claim limited by this subsection for ac-14 tual or compensatory damages measured by the pe-15 cuniary injuries, resulting from such death, to the 16 persons for whose benefit the action was brought, 17 subject to the provisions of paragraph (1)(B).
- 19 not affect the damages that may be recovered under the 20 Act of April 27, 1908 (45 U.S.C. 51 et seq.; popularly 21 known as the 'Federal Employers' Liability Act') or under 22 any workers compensation act.".

"(b) Effect on Other Laws.—This section shall

23 (b) Conforming Amendment.—The table of sec-24 tions of chapter 281 of title 49, United States Code, is 25 amended by adding at the end the following new item:

[&]quot;28103. Limitations on rail passenger transportation liability.".

TITLE V—FINANCIAL REFORMS

2 SEC. 501. AMTRAK FINANCIAL GOALS.

3	Section 24101(d) of title 49, United States Code, is
4	amended by adding at the end thereof the following
5	"Within 90 days after the date of enactment of the Am-
6	trak and Local Rail Revitalization Act of 1995, Amtrak
7	shall prepare a financial plan to operate within the fund-
8	ing levels authorized by section 24104 of this chapter, in-
9	cluding budgetary goals for fiscal years 1995 through
10	1997. Commencing no later than the fiscal year following
11	the fifth anniversary of the enactment of the Amtrak and
12	Local Rail Revitalization Act of 1995, Amtrak shall oper-
13	ate without the need for any Federal operating grant
14	funds appropriated for its benefit. The plan shall include
15	internal reforms to maximize cost savings through over-
16	head reduction and productivity improvement, steps to
17	maximize revenue, implementation of a commercially
18	rationalized national route system, and achievement
19	through negotiation of substantial reductions in costs di-
20	rectly relating to health and welfare plans, train and en-
21	gine crew size requirements, and mechanical workforce in-
22	efficiencies. Each year before the fifth anniversary of the
23	date of enactment of the Amtrak and Local Rail Revital-
24	ization Act of 1995, the Amtrak Reform Council shall sub-
25	mit to the Congress a progress report outlining the likeli-

- 1 hood that Amtrak will not require Federal operating
- 2 grants after that anniversary.".

3 SEC. 502. AMTRAK SUNSET TRIGGER.

- 4 Section 24104 of title 49, United States Code, is
- 5 amended by adding at the end thereof the following:
- 6 "(g) Sunset Trigger.—
- 7 "(1) Following the third anniversary of the enactment of the Amtrak and Local Rail Revitalization 8 9 Act of 1995, the Amtrak Reform Council shall re-10 view the progress Amtrak has made under its plan 11 to achieve the financial goals specified in section 12 24101(d), and determine on the basis of perform-13 ance under the plan the likelihood that Amtrak will 14 not require Federal operating grant funds appro-15 priated for its benefit after the fifth anniversary of 16 the enactment of that Act. The Amtrak Reform 17 Council will submit a report on its findings and de-18 terminations, and the action plan recommended for 19 implementation by the Secretary and Amtrak under 20 section 601 of that Act to the Congress 90 days 21 after the third anniversary of the enactment of that 22 Act. Authorizations for appropriations made by this 23 section for fiscal years beginning after the submis-24 sion of the report to the Congress pursuant to this

subsection are conditioned on Amtrak achieving the

1	targets in its plan and findings that Amtrak will not
2	require Federal operating grant funds to be appro-
3	priated for its benefit in fiscal years following the
4	fifth anniversary of the enactment of that Act.
5	"(2) In determining whether Amtrak has met
6	the targets in its plans and the likelihood that it will
7	not require a Federal operating subsidy for fiscal
8	years beginning after the fifth anniversary of the
9	date of enactment of the Amtrak and Local Rail Re-
10	vitalization Act of 1995, the Amtrak Reform Council
11	shall take into account Acts of God, national emer-
12	gencies, and other events beyond the reasonable con-
13	trol of Amtrak.
14	"(3) If the Amtrak Reform Council finds
15	that—
16	"(A) Amtrak—
17	"(i) has met the financial goals antici-
18	pated for it at the end of 3 years, taking
19	into account the factors in paragraph (2),
20	and
21	"(ii) will be able to maintain a na-
22	tional passenger rail system which provides
23	access to all areas of the country without
24	Federal operational support.

1	then the Secretary and Amtrak shall implement
2	the Amtrak plan developed under section
3	601(b)(6)(A) of the Amtrak and Local Rail Re-
4	vitalization Act of 1995 providing the continued
5	operation of Amtrak unless the Congress dis-
6	approves the plan within 45 days after it is sub-
7	mitted to the Congress; or
8	"(B) Amtrak has failed to meet the finan-
9	cial goals anticipated for it at the end of 3
10	years, taking into account the factors in para-
11	graph (2), then the Secretary and Amtrak shall
12	implement the Amtrak sunset plan developed
13	under section 601(b)(6)(B) of that Act provid-
14	ing for the complete liquidation of Amtrak, un-
15	less the Congress disapproves the plan within
16	45 days after it is submitted to the Congress
17	"(4) The annual report of the Amtrak Reform
18	Council shall include an assessment of progress or
19	the resolution or status of productivity issues, in-
20	cluding—
21	"(A) train and engine manning require-
22	ments;
23	"(B) utilization of employees in the me-
24	chanical operations;

1	"(C) health and welfare benefits and plan
2	design;
3	"(D) management efficiency improvement;
4	"(E) property utilization and management;
5	"(F) revenue enhancement and ridership;
6	"(G) Amtrak's operation as a national pas-
7	senger rail system which provides access to all
8	areas of the country and ties together existing
9	and emerging regional rail passenger networks
10	and other intermodal passenger service;
11	"(H) technology utilization; and
12	"(I) procurement reforms.".
13	SEC. 503. DISBURSEMENT OF FEDERAL FUNDS; GRANT RE-
13 14	SEC. 503. DISBURSEMENT OF FEDERAL FUNDS; GRANT RE- LEASE DATE.
14	
	LEASE DATE.
14 15	LEASE DATE. Section 24104(d) of title 49, United States Code, is
14 15 16 17	LEASE DATE. Section 24104(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:
14 15 16 17 18	LEASE DATE. Section 24104(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows: "(d) Administration of Appropriations.—Funds
14 15 16 17 18	LEASE DATE. Section 24104(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows: "(d) Administration of Appropriations.—Funds appropriated pursuant to this section shall be provided to
14 15 16 17 18	LEASE DATE. Section 24104(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows: "(d) Administration of Appropriations.—Funds appropriated pursuant to this section shall be provided to Amtrak upon appropriation when requested by Amtrak.
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	LEASE DATE. Section 24104(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows: "(d) Administration of Appropriations.—Funds appropriated pursuant to this section shall be provided to Amtrak upon appropriation when requested by Amtrak. Notwithstanding any agreement to the contrary, funds
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Section 24104(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows: "(d) Administration of Appropriations.—Funds appropriated pursuant to this section shall be provided to Amtrak upon appropriation when requested by Amtrak. Notwithstanding any agreement to the contrary, funds that have been appropriated to the Secretary for use in
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Section 24104(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows: "(d) Administration of Appropriations.—Funds appropriated pursuant to this section shall be provided to Amtrak upon appropriation when requested by Amtrak. Notwithstanding any agreement to the contrary, funds that have been appropriated to the Secretary for use in implementing the Northeast Corridor Improvement

1 SEC. 504. TRANSFER OF EXCESS RAILROAD TAXES.

2	Section 24301 of title 49, United States Code, as
3	amended by section 202 of this Act, is amended by adding
4	at the end thereof the following new subsection:
5	"(p) Tax Relief.—
6	"(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent funds are ap-
7	propriated pursuant to paragraph (3) of this sub-
8	section, Amtrak shall, effective October 1, 1995, be
9	relieved from any liability or obligation to pay—
10	"(A) tax liabilities under section 3221 of
11	the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that are
12	more than the amount needed for benefits for
13	individuals who retire from Amtrak and for
14	their beneficiaries; and
15	"(B) obligations of Amtrak under section
16	8(a) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance
17	Act (45 U.S.C. 358(a)) that are more than obli-
18	gations of Amtrak calculated on an experience-
19	related basis.
20	"(2) Scope.—
21	"(A) Employee classification.—In de-
22	termining Amtrak's liabilities or obligations
23	under the provisions of law to which reference
24	is made in paragraph (1), workers not on Am-
25	trak's employee roster shall not be classified as
26	Amtrak's employees.

- 1 "(B) NO REDUCTION OF BENEFIT.—Noth-2 ing in this subsection shall be construed as a 3 basis for reducing any benefit payable to any 4 railroad employee, retiree, or beneficiary.
 - "(C) RESIDUAL LIABILITY.—Amtrak remains liable for any obligations not paid under paragraph (3).
 - "(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.— There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary amounts necessary to relieve Amtrak of portions of its liabilities under section 3221 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1086 and section 8(a) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, as provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection, up to the estimated amount of such portions in each calendar year. To the extent funds are appropriated pursuant to this paragraph, Amtrak is relieved of such liabilities. Appropriations to the Secretary which have been authorized by this subsection shall be paid in the same manner as tax liabilities or obligations from which Amtrak has not been relieved. Amounts appropriated under this subsection shall not be considered a United States Government subsidy of Amtrak.".

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1 SEC. 505. REPORTS AND AUDITS.

- 2 Section 24315 of title 49, United States Code, as
- 3 amended by section 208, is amended—
- 4 (1) by striking subsections (a) and (c);
- 5 (2) by redesignating subsections (b), (d), (e),
- 6 (f), (g), and (h) as subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), (e),
- 7 and (f) respectively; and
- 8 (3) in subsection (d), as so redesignated by
- 9 paragraph (2) of this section, by striking "(d) or
- (e)" and inserting "(b) or (c)".

11 SEC. 506. OFFICERS' PAY.

- Section 24303(b) of title 49, United States Code, is
- 13 amended by adding at the end the following: "The preced-
- 14 ing sentence shall not apply for any fiscal year for which
- 15 no Federal operating assistance is provided to Amtrak.".

16 SEC. 507. EXEMPTION FROM TAXES.

- 17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 24301(1)(1) of title 49,
- 18 United States Code, is amended—
- 19 (1) by inserting ", and any passenger or other
- customer of Amtrak or such subsidiary," after "sub-
- 21 sidiary of Amtrak";
- 22 (2) by striking "or fee imposed" and all that
- follows through "levied on it" and inserting ", fee,
- 24 head charge, or other charge, imposed or levied by
- a State, political subdivision, or local taxing author-
- 26 ity, directly or indirectly on Amtrak, a rail carrier

- 31 1 subsidiary of Amtrak, or on persons traveling in 2 intercity rail passenger transportation or on mail or 3 express transportation provided by Amtrak or such a subsidiary, or on the carriage of such persons, 5 mail, or express, or on the sale of any such transpor-6 tation, or on the gross receipts derived therefrom"; 7 and 8 (3) by striking the last sentence and inserting 9 the following: "Amtrak is not exempt from a tax or 10 fee it was required to pay as of September 10, 1982, 11 if that tax or fee was assessed before April 1,
- 13 (b) Effective Date.—The amendments made by
- 14 subsection (a) do not apply to sales taxes imposed on
- 15 intrastate travel as of the date of enactment of this Act.

16 TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS

- 17 SEC. 601. AMTRAK REFORM COUNCIL.
- 18 (a) Establishment.—There is established an inde-
- 19 pendent commission to be known as the Amtrak Reform
- 20 Council.

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1995.".

- 21 (b) Duties.—The Council shall—
- 22 (1) evaluate Amtrak's performance and report
- 23 thereon annually to the Congress;
- 24 (2) prepare an analysis and critique of Am-
- 25 trak's business plan;

- 1 (3) suggest strategies for further cost contain-2 ment and productivity improvements, including 3 strategies with the potential for further reduction in 4 Federal operating subsidies;
 - (4) consider the merits, costs, and service implications of the partial or complete privatization of Amtrak's operations;
 - (5) recommend appropriate methods for adoption of uniform cost and accounting procedures throughout the Amtrak system, based on generally accepted accounting principles; and

(6) either—

- (A) develop, and submit to the Congress, an action plan for Amtrak, to take effect not later than the fiscal year beginning after the fifth anniversary of the date of enactment of this Act in the event that the Amtrak sunset is not triggered under section 24104(g) of title 49, United States Code; or
- (B) develop, and submit to the Congress, an action plan for complete liquidation of Amtrak no later than the fifth anniversary of the date of enactment of this Act in the event Amtrak sunset is triggered under section 24104(g) of title 49, United States Code.

1	(e) Membership.—(1)(A) The Council shall consist
2	of 8 members appointed by the President, by and with
3	the advise and consent of the Senate.
4	(B) The President shall transmit to the Senate the
5	nominations for appointment to the Commission within 90
6	days after the date of enactment of this Act.
7	(C) Members shall serve for terms of 5 years.
8	(2) Appointments under paragraph (1) shall be made
9	from among individuals who—
10	(A) have technical qualification, professional
11	standing, and demonstrated expertise in the fields of
12	transportation, rail labor, and corporate manage-
13	ment; and
14	(B) are not employees of Amtrak, employees of
15	the United States, or representatives of rail labor or
16	rail management.
17	(3) In selecting individuals for nominations for ap-
18	pointment to the Council, the President shall consult
19	with—
20	(A) the Speaker of the House of Representa-
21	tives concerning the appointment of 2 members;
22	(B) the majority leader of the Senate concern-
23	ing the appointment of 2 members;

1	(C) the minority leader of the House of Rep-
2	resentatives concerning the appointment of 1 mem-
3	ber; and
4	(D) the minority leader of the Senate concern-
5	ing the appointment of 1 member.
6	(4) At the time the President nominates individuals
7	for appointment to the Council, the President shall des-
8	ignate one such individual as Chairman. The Chairman
9	shall serve as chairman until the confirmation of his suc-
10	cessor.
11	(5) If a vacancy occurs other than by the expiration
12	of a term, the individual appointed to fill the vacancy shall
13	serve only for the unexpired portion of the term for which
14	that individual's predecessor was appointed.
15	(d) Meetings.—
16	(1) Each meeting of the Council, other than
17	meetings in which proprietary information is to be
18	discussed, shall be open to the public.
19	(2) All proceedings, information, and delibera-
20	tions of the Council shall be open, upon request, to
21	the Chairman and the ranking minority party mem-
22	ber of the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation
23	of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-

portation of the Senate or such other members of

- 1 the subcommittee designated by the chairman or
- 2 ranking minority party member.
- 3 (e) Travel Expenses.—Each member of the Coun-
- 4 cil shall serve without pay, but shall receive travel ex-
- 5 penses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in ac-
- 6 cordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United
- 7 States Code.
- 8 (f) Administrative Support.—The Secretary of
- 9 Transportation shall provide to the Council such adminis-
- 10 trative support as the Council requires to carry out this
- 11 section.
- 12 (g) Access to Information.—Amtrak shall make
- 13 available to the Council all information the Council re-
- 14 quires to carry out this section. The Council shall establish
- 15 appropriate procedures to ensure against the public disclo-
- 16 sure of any information obtained under this subsection
- 17 which is a trade secret or commercial or financial informa-
- 18 tion that is privileged or confidential.
- 19 (h) Status.—The Council shall not be subject to the
- 20 Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) or sec-
- 21 tion 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred
- 22 to as the Freedom of Information Act).
- 23 SEC. 602. PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND PLACE OF BUSINESS.
- Section 24301 of title 49, United States Code, is
- 25 amended—

1	(1) by striking the first sentence of subsection
2	(b);
3	(2) by striking "District of Columbia" in sub-
4	section (b) and inserting "State in which its prin-
5	cipal office and place of business is located";
6	(3) by adding at the end of subsection (b) the
7	following: "For purposes of this subsection, the term
8	'State' includes the District of Columbia. Notwith-
9	standing section 3 of the District of Columbia Busi-
10	ness Corporation Act, Amtrak may, at its election,
11	continue to be organized under the provisions of that
12	Act."; and
13	(4) by striking "the District of Columbia Busi-
14	ness Corporation Act (D.C. Code § 29–301 et seq.)"
15	in subsection (e) and inserting "the corporate law of
16	the State in which it is incorporated".
17	SEC. 603. STATUS AND APPLICABLE LAWS.
18	Section 24301 of title 49, United States Code, is
19	amended—
20	(1) by striking "rail carrier under section
21	10102" in subsection (a)(1) and inserting "railroad
22	carrier under section $20102(2)$ and chapters 261
23	and 281"; and
24	(2) by amending subsection (c) to read as fol-
25	lows:

- 1 "(c) Application of Subtitle IV.—Subtitle IV of
- 2 this title shall not apply to Amtrak, except for sections
- 3 11303, 11342(a), 11504(a) and (d), and 11707. Notwith-
- 4 standing the preceding sentence, Amtrak shall continue to
- 5 be considered an employer under the Railroad Retirement
- 6 Act of 1974, the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act,
- 7 and the Railroad Retirement Tax Act.".
- 8 SEC. 604. WASTE DISPOSAL.
- 9 Section 24301(m)(1)(A) of title 49, United States
- 10 Code, is amended by striking "1996" and inserting
- 11 "2001".
- 12 SEC. 605. ASSISTANCE FOR UPGRADING FACILITIES.
- 13 Section 24310 of title 49, United States Code, and
- 14 the item relating thereto in the table of sections of chapter
- 15 243 of such title, are repealed.
- 16 SEC. 606. RAIL SAFETY SYSTEM PROGRAM.
- 17 Section 24313 of title 49, United States Code, and
- 18 the item relating thereto in the table of sections of chapter
- 19 243 of such title, are repealed.
- 20 SEC. 607. DEMONSTRATION OF NEW TECHNOLOGY.
- 21 Section 24314 of title 49, United States Code, and
- 22 the item relating thereto in the table of sections of chapter
- 23 243 of such title, are repealed.

SEC. 608. NORTHEAST CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

- 2 Section 24902 of title 49, United States Code, is
- 3 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
- 4 section:
- 5 "(m) Applicable Procedures.—For the purpose
- 6 of any State or local requirement for permit or other ap-
- 7 proval for construction or operation of any improvement
- 8 undertaken by or for the benefit of Amtrak as part of,
- 9 or in furtherance of, the Northeast Corridor Improvement
- 10 Project, or chapter 241, 243, or 247 of this title, the ex-
- 11 emptions and procedures applicable to a project under-
- 12 taken by the Federal Government or an agency thereof
- 13 shall apply. The preceding sentence shall not apply to any
- 14 project initiated in any fiscal year for which Amtrak re-
- 15 ceives no Federal operating subsidy.".

16 SEC. 609. PROGRAM MASTER PLAN FOR BOSTON-NEW YORK

- 17 MAIN LINE.
- 18 (a) Repeal.—Section 24903 of title 49, United
- 19 States Code, is repealed and the table of sections for chap-
- 20 ter 249 of such title is amended by striking the item relat-
- 21 ing to that section.
- 22 (b) Conforming Amendments.—
- 23 (1) Section 24902 of title 49, United States
- Code, as amended by section 608 of this Act, is
- amended by striking subsections (a), (c), and (d)
- and redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (a)

- 39 1 and subsections (e) through (m) as subsections (b) 2 through (j), respectively. 3 (2) Section 24904(a)(8) is amended by striking 4 "the high-speed rail passenger transportation area 5 specified in section 24902(a) (1) and (2)" and in-6 serting "a high-speed rail passenger transportation 7 area". 8 SEC. 610. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990. 9 (a) APPLICATION TO AMTRAK.—Amtrak shall not be 10 subject to any requirement under subsections (a) (1) and (3) and under subsection (e)(2) of section 242 of the 11 12 Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12162) until— 13 14 (1) January 1, 1998, for subsections (a) (1) 15 and (3); and (2) October 15, 2001, for subsection (e)(2).
- 16
- 17 (b) Conforming Amendment.—Section 24307 of
- title 49, United States Code, is amended— 18
- 19 (1) by striking subsection (b); and
- 20 (2) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
- 21 section (b).
- 22 SEC. 611. DEFINITIONS.
- 23 Section 24102 of title 49, United States Code, is
- 24 amended—
- 25 (1) by striking paragraphs (2) and (11);

1	(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through
2	(8) as paragraphs (2) through (7), respectively;
3	(3) by inserting ", including a unit of State or
4	local government," after "means a person" in para-
5	graph (7), as so redesignated; and
6	(4) by inserting after paragraph (7), as so re-
7	designated, the following new paragraph:
8	"(8) 'rail passenger transportation' means the
9	interstate, intrastate, or international transportation
10	of passengers by rail, including mail and express.".
11	SEC. 612. NORTHEAST CORRIDOR COST DISPUTE.
12	Section 1163 of the Northeast Rail Service Act of
13	1981 (45 U.S.C. 1111) is repealed.
14	SEC. 613. INSPECTOR GENERAL ACT OF 1978 AMENDMENT.
15	(a) Amendment.—
16	(1) In general.—Section 8G(a)(2) of the In-
17	spector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is
18	amended by striking "Amtrak,".
19	(2) Effective date.—The amendment made
20	by paragraph (1) takes effect in the first fiscal year
21	for which Amtrak receives no Federal operating sub-
22	sidy.
23	(b) Amtrak Not a Federal Entity.—Amtrak
24	shall not be considered a Federal entity for purposes of
25	the Inspector General Act of 1978. The preceding sen-

1	tence shall apply for any fiscal year for which Amtrak re-
2	ceives no Federal operating subsidy.
3	SEC. 614. CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORPORATION.
4	Section 4023 of the Conrail Privatization Act (45
5	U.S.C. 1323), and the item relating thereto in the table
6	of contents of such Act, are repealed.
7	SEC. 615. INTERSTATE RAIL COMPACTS.
8	(a) Consent to Compacts.—Congress grants con-
9	sent to States with an interest in a specific form, route,
10	or corridor of intercity passenger rail service (including
11	high speed rail service) to enter into interstate compacts
12	to promote the provision of the service, including—
13	(1) retaining an existing service or commencing
14	a new service;
15	(2) assembling rights-of-way; and
16	(3) performing capital improvements, includ-
17	ing—
18	(A) the construction and rehabilitation of
19	maintenance facilities;
20	(B) the purchase of locomotives; and
21	(C) operational improvements, including
22	communications, signals, and other systems.
23	(b) Financing.—An interstate compact established
24	by States under subsection (a) may provide that, in order
25	to carry out the compact, the States may—

1	(1) accept contributions from a unit of State or
2	local government or a person;
3	(2) use any Federal or State funds made avail-
4	able for intercity passenger rail service (except funds
5	made available for the National Railroad Passenger
6	Corporation);
7	(3) on such terms and conditions as the States
8	consider advisable—
9	(A) borrow money on a short-term basis
10	and issue notes for the borrowing; and
11	(B) issue bonds; and
12	(4) obtain financing by other means permitted
13	under Federal or State law.
14	TITLE VII—AUTHORIZATION OF
15	APPROPRIATIONS
16	SEC. 701. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
17	(a) In General.—Section 24104(a) of title 49,
18	United States Code, is amended to read as follows:
19	"(a) In General.—There are authorized to be ap-
20	propriated to the Secretary of Transportation—
21	"(1) \$772,000,000 for fiscal year 1995;
22	"(2) \$712,000,000 for fiscal year 1996;
23	"(3) \$712,000,000 for fiscal year 1997;
24	((/4) \$710,000,000 f
	" (4) \$712,000,000 for fiscal year 1998; and

- 1 for the benefit of Amtrak for capital expenditures under
- 2 chapters 243 and 247 of this title, operating expenses, and
- 3 payments described in subsection (c)(1) (A) through (C).
- 4 In fiscal years following the fifth anniversary of the enact-
- 5 ment of the Amtrak and Local Rail Revitalization Act of
- 6 1995 no funds authorized for Amtrak shall be used for
- 7 operating expenses.".
- 8 (b) Additional Authorizations.—Section
- 9 24104(b) of title 49, United States Code, is amended to
- 10 read as follows:
- 11 "(b) Additional Authorizations.—In addition to
- 12 amounts appropriated under subsection (a), there are au-
- 13 thorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transpor-
- 14 tation—
- "(1) \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 1995;
- "(2) \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 1996;
- "(3) \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 1997;
- 18 "(4) \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 1998; and
- "(5) \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 1999,
- 20 for the benefit of Amtrak to make capital expenditures
- 21 under chapter 249 of this title.".
- 22 (c) Conforming Amendments.—Section 24909 of
- 23 title 49, United States Code, and the item relating thereto
- 24 in the table of sections of chapter 249 of such title, are
- 25 repealed.

- 1 (d) Guarantee of Obligations.—There are au-
- 2 thorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transpor-
- 3 tation—
- 4 (1) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 1996;
- 5 (2) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 1997;
- 6 (3) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 1998; and
- 7 (4) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 1999,
- 8 for guaranteeing obligations of Amtrak under section 511
- 9 of the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act
- 10 of 1976 (45 U.S.C. 831). Notwithstanding any other pro-
- 11 vision of law to the contrary, the proceeds of the obliga-
- 12 tions guaranteed hereunder may be used for the acquisi-
- 13 tion, rehabilitation, improvement, development, or estab-
- 14 lishment of any intercity rail passenger equipment or fa-
- 15 cilities or the refinancing of any of the foregoing. The
- 16 United States shall be deemed to have reasonable protec-
- 17 tion and security if the Secretary obtains a lien or mort-
- 18 gage encumbering such facilities or equipment, which lien
- 19 or mortgage may be subordinated to any mortgages or
- 20 liens thereon securing obligations to a lender or lessor.
- 21 The Secretary shall not be required to make any finding
- 22 regarding the value or prospective earning power of the
- 23 equipment or facilities or the earning power of the obligor
- 24 or the place where high-speed rail facilities or equipment
- 25 are mined, produced, or manufactured. The obligor may

- 1 incur the obligations guaranteed by the Secretary here-
- 2 under without obtaining the consent of the Secretary
- 3 under section 24304(f) of title 49, United States Code.
- 4 The obligations shall have a liquidation interest superior
- 5 to the preferred stock of the obligor issued to the Sec-
- 6 retary and may be secured by a lien or mortgage on the
- 7 property of the obligor superior to any lien or mortgage
- 8 held by the Secretary. The Secretary shall not require that
- 9 pre-existing obligations of the obligor be subordinated to
- 10 the rights of the Secretary in the event of a default. The
- 11 Secretary shall act on an application for a guarantee here-
- 12 under within 30 days after it is submitted.
- (e) Amtrak shall expend capital funds equitably
- 14 across its national passenger rail system on projects
- 15 deemed necessary to meet its most critical operating and
- 16 capital needs. Priority shall be given to those projects
- 17 which offer significant return on investment and which le-
- 18 verage the highest levels of State, local, and private finan-
- 19 cial support.

20 TITLE VIII—AMTRAK REVENUE

21 **ENHANCEMENT**

- 22 SEC. 801. INTERCITY RAIL PASSENGER ACCOUNT.
- 23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 243 of title 49, United
- 24 States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the
- 25 following new section:

1 "§ 24316. Intercity Rail Passenger Account

- 2 "(a) Establishment.—Amtrak shall establish an
- 3 Intercity Rail Passenger Account. Amounts deposited in
- 4 this account shall be available for use by Amtrak to—
- 5 "(1) acquire passenger equipment and loco-
- 6 motives;
- 7 "(2) encourage State and local investment in
- 8 facilities and equipment used to provide intercity rail
- 9 passenger transportation; and
- "(3) address other critical capital priorities.
- 11 "(b) Deposits.—During fiscal years 1995 through
- 12 1999, Amtrak shall deposit amounts equal in the aggre-
- 13 gate to 5 percent of ticket revenue for that 5 fiscal year
- 14 period into the Intercity Rail Passenger Account and may
- 15 deposit into the Account—
- 16 "(1) payments received for the use of its equip-
- ment or facilities;
- 18 "(2) claims recovered by Amtrak;
- 19 "(3) amounts from any other source to the ex-
- 20 tent authorized by law; and
- 21 "(4) amounts received by Amtrak as refunds of
- taxes on the fuel required for its operations.".
- 23 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
- 24 for chapter 243 of such title is amended by adding at the
- 25 end thereof the following:

"24316. Intercity Rail Passenger Account".

1 SEC. 802. UNION STATION STATE OF GOOD REPAIR.

- 2 In lieu of payments to the Secretary of Transpor-
- 3 tation for loan repayments, the Union Station Redevelop-
- 4 ment Corporation shall make an equal payment into a cap-
- 5 ital reserve account to maintain Washington Union Sta-
- 6 tion in a state of good repair.

7 SEC. 803. COMMERCIAL DIVERSIFICATION.

- 8 (a) In General.—Amtrak may increase non-Federal
- 9 revenues through—
- 10 (1) the sale of concessions and the use of vend-
- ing machines and video and audio entertainment on
- trains;
- 13 (2) the sale of advertising space on trains and
- in rail stations;
- 15 (3) use of telecommunications networks or in-
- 16 frastructure; and
- 17 (4) other creative marketing and services activi-
- ties.
- 19 (b) APPLICABLE LAWS.—Section 24301 of title 49,
- 20 United States Code, as amended by section 504 of this
- 21 Act, is amended by adding at the end thereof the follow-
- 22 ing:
- 23 "(q) Power Purchases.—The sale of power to Am-
- 24 trak for its own use, including operating its electric trac-
- 25 tion system, does not constitute a direct sale of electric

- 1 energy to an ultimate consumer under section 212(h)(1)
- 2 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824k(h)(1)).
- 3 "(r) Power Sales to Commuter Authorities
- 4 AND OTHERS.—A state or other law, rule, regulation,
- 5 order, or standards relating to the licensing, rates, terms,
- 6 and conditions of sales of electric energy at retail does not
- 7 apply to Amtrak in making sales of electric energy from
- 8 its electric power transmission and distribution system to
- 9 commuter authorities and other consumers of electricity.
- 10 "(s) Transmission Service.—Any entity selling
- 11 power to Amtrak for its own use or to be resold by Amtrak
- 12 to Commuter authorities or other consumers of electricity
- 13 may seek an order under section 211(a) of the Federal
- 14 Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824j(a)) requiring a utility to pro-
- 15 vide transmission service for this power without regard to
- 16 any restrictions in subsections (g) and (h) of section 212
- 17 of such Act (16 U.S.C. 824k).".
- 18 (c) Definition of Amtrak.—Section 24102 of title
- 19 49, United States Code, is amended by redesignating
- 20 paragraphs (1) through (11) as (2) through (12), respec-
- 21 tively, and by inserting before paragraph (2), as so redes-
- 22 ignated, the following:
- 23 "(1) 'Amtrak' means the National Railroad
- 24 Passenger Corporation and any successor, assign,

- 1 subsidiary, affiliate, or joint venture in which that
- 2 Corporation has a material interest.".
- 3 (d) AUTHORITY TO SELL SURPLUS POWER.—Section
- 4 24305 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by add-
- 5 ing at the end the following:
- 6 "(g) Sale of Surplus Power.—Whenever Amtrak
- 7 owns electric energy or power transmission capacity that
- 8 is surplus to its traction power needs, it may sell such
- 9 power at wholesale or retail to any purchaser, sell power
- 10 transmission services, seek interconnection under section
- 11 210 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824i), and enter
- 12 into coordination, power pooling, and other arrangements
- 13 with electric utilities designed to increase Amtrak's reve-
- 14 nues or decrease its costs.".
- 15 (e) Conforming Amendment.—Section
- 16 212(h)(2)(A) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C.
- 17 824k(h)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting "Amtrak;" after
- 18 "a State or any political subdivision of a State (or an
- 19 agency, authority or instrumentality of a State or any po-
- 20 litical subdivision of a State);".

21 TITLE IX—PRESERVATION OF

22 RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE

- 23 SEC. 901. SHORT TITLE.
- 24 This title may be cited as the "Rail Infrastructure
- 25 Preservation Act of 1995".

1	SEC. 902. LOCAL RAIL FREIGHT ASSISTANCE; AUTHORIZA-
2	TION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
3	Section 22108 of title 49, United States Code, is
4	amended—
5	(1) by striking out so much of subsection (a) as
6	precedes paragraph (2) and inserting the following:
7	"(a) In General.—
8	"(1) There is authorized to be appropriated to
9	the Secretary of Transportation to carry out this
10	chapter the sum of \$25,000,000 for the fiscal year
11	ending September 30, 1996, and for each subse-
12	quent fiscal year."; and
13	(2) by striking subsection (a)(3).
14	SEC. 903. DISASTER FUNDING FOR RAILROADS.
15	Section 22101 of title 49, United States Code, is
16	amended by redesignating subsection (d) as (e), and by
17	inserting after subsection (c) the following:
18	"(d) Disaster Funding for Railroads.—
19	"(1) The Secretary may declare that a disaster
20	has occurred and that it is necessary to repair and
21	rebuild rail lines damaged as a result of such disas-
22	ter. If the Secretary makes the declaration under
23	this paragraph, the Secretary may—
24	"(A) waive the requirements of this sec-
25	tion: and

1	"(B) prescribe the form and time for appli-
2	cations for assistance made available herein.
3	"(2) The Secretary may not provide assistance
4	under this subsection unless emergency disaster re-
5	lief funds are appropriated for that purpose.
6	"(3) Funds provided for under this subsection
7	shall remain available until extended.".
8	SEC. 904. GRADE-CROSSING ELIGIBILITY.
9	Section 22101(a) of title 49, United States Code, is
10	amended—
11	(1) by striking "and" after the semicolon in
12	paragraph (2);
13	(2) by striking the period at the end of para-
14	graph (3) and inserting a semicolon; and
15	(3) by adding at the end thereof the following
16	new paragraphs:
17	"(4) the cost of closing or improving a railroad
18	grade crossing or series of railroad grade crossings;
19	and
20	"(5) the cost of creating a State-supervised
21	grain car pool.".
22	SEC. 905. DECLARATION OF POLICY.
23	Section 101(a) of the Railroad Revitalization and
24	Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 (45 U.S.C. 801(a)(4)) is
25	amended to read as follows:

1	"(4) continuation of service on, or preservation
2	of, light density lines that are necessary to continued
3	employment and community well-being throughout
4	the United States;".
5	SEC. 906. RAILROAD LOAN GUARANTEES; MAXIMUM RATE
6	OF INTEREST.
7	Section 511(f) of the Railroad Revitalization and
8	Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 (45 U.S.C. 831(f)) is
9	amended by striking "shall not exceed an annual percent-
10	age rate which the Secretary determines to be reasonable,
11	taking into consideration the prevailing interest rates for
12	similar obligations in the private market." and inserting
13	"shall not exceed the annual percentage rate charged
14	equivalent to the cost of money to the Federal govern-
15	ment.".
16	SEC. 907. RAILROAD LOAN GUARANTEES; MINIMUM REPAY-
17	MENT PERIOD AND PREPAYMENT PEN-
18	ALTIES.
19	Section 511(g)(2) of the Railroad Revitalization and
20	Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 (45 U.S.C. 831(g)(2)) is
21	amended to read as follows:
22	"(2) payment of the obligation is required by its
23	terms to be made not less than 15 years and not
24	more than 25 years from the date of its execution,

1	with no penalty imposed for prepayment after 5
2	years;".
3	SEC. 908. RAILROAD LOAN GUARANTEES; DETERMINATION
4	OF REPAYABILITY.
5	Section 511(g)(5) of the Railroad Revitalization and
6	Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 (45 U.S.C. 831(g)(5)) is
7	amended to read as follows:
8	"(5) either the loan can reasonably be repaid by
9	the applicant or the loan is collaterallized at no more
10	than the current value of assets being financed
11	under this section to provide protection to the
12	United States;".
13	SEC. 909. RAILROAD LOAN GUARANTEES; RIGHTS OF SEC-
14	RETARY.
15	Section 511(i) of the Railroad Revitalization and
16	Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 (45 U.S.C. 831(i)) is
17	amended by adding at the end the following:
18	"(4) The Secretary shall not require, as a con-
19	dition for guarantee of an obligation, that all pre-
20	existing secured obligations of an obligor be subordi-
21	nated to the rights of the Secretary in the event of
22	a default.".

1	TITLE X—FISCAL	
2	REVITALIZATION	
3	SEC. 1001. ON-TIME PERFORMANCE INCENTIVES.	
4	(a) In General.—Part III of subchapter B of chap-	
5	ter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—	
6	(1) by redesignating section 137 as 138; and	
7	(2) by inserting after section 136 the following:	
8	"SEC. 137. INCENTIVE PAYMENTS FOR ON-TIME PERFORM-	
9	ANCE.	
10	"Gross income does not include payments received by	
11	a railroad as an incentive for the on-time operation of	
12	intercity passenger trains.".	
13	(b) The table of sections for such part is amended	
14	by striking the item relating to section 137 and inserting	
15	the following:	
	"Sec. 137. On-time performance incentives. "Sec. 138. Cross references to other Acts.".	
16	SEC. 1002. PAYMENT TO THE INTERCITY RAIL PASSENGER	
17	ACCOUNT OF EXCISE TAXES ON FUEL.	
18	Section 6427 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986	
19	(relating to fuels not used for taxable purposes) is amend-	
20	ed by redesignating subsection (r) as subsection (s) and	
21	by inserting after subsection (q) the following:	
22	"(r) AMTRAK INTERCITY PASSENGER TRAINS.—The	
23	Secretary shall pay (without interest) to the Intercity Rail	
24	Passenger Account established by section 24316 of title	

- 1 49, United States Code, the amount of tax paid by Amtrak
- 2 under chapter 31 or 32 on any fuel used in the operation
- 3 of intercity passenger trains. For purposes of subsection
- 4 (k)(1) of this section, payment to the Intercity Rail Pas-
- 5 senger Account shall be considered to be a payment de-
- 6 seribed in subsection (k)(1)(A).".
- 7 SEC. 1003. FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PAS-
- 8 SENGER CORPORATION FROM THE MASS
- 9 TRANSIT ACCOUNT.
- 10 Section 9503(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of
- 11 1986 (relating to establishment of mass transit account)
- 12 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:
- 13 "(6) Transfers to the intercity rail pas-
- 14 <u>SENGER ACCOUNT.—Notwithstanding any other pro-</u>
- vision of law to the contrary, the Secretary shall
- 16 transfer from the Mass Transit Account to the
- 17 Intercity Rail Passenger Account established under
- section 24316 of title 49, United States Code, the
- 19 intercity rail passenger portion of the amounts ap-
- 20 propriated under subsection (b) of this section which
- 21 are attributable to taxes under sections 4041 and
- 22 4081 imposed on or after October 1, 1995. The
- 23 intercity rail passenger portion is appropriated for
- 24 the benefit of Amtrak for expenditure in accordance
- with the provisions of such section 24316. For pur-

1 poses of this paragraph, the term 'intercity rail pas-2 senger portion' means the amount attributable to 3 0.5 cent per gallon of the 2 cents per gallon to be transferred to the Mass Transit Account pursuant to 4 5 paragraph (2) of this subsection. The Secretary shall 6 transfer such funds at the end of each quarter of a 7 fiscal year.".

8 SEC. 1004. SAFEHARBOR LEASING OF INTERCITY RAIL PAS-

9 SENGER EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES.

- 10 (a) In General.—Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to accelerated cost recovery system) is amended by adding at the end thereof the fol-12 lowing new subsection: 13
- "(k) Leased Property Used in the Provision 14 15 OF INTERCITY RAIL PASSENGER SERVICE.—

16 "(1) In GENERAL.—In the case of an agree-17 ment with respect to qualified leased property, if all 18 of the parties to the agreement characterize such 19 agreement as a lease and elect to have the provisions 20 of this subsection apply with respect to such agreement, and if the requirements of paragraph (2) are 22 met, then, for purposes of this subtitle, such agree-23 ment shall be treated as a lease entered into by the 24 parties in the course of carrying on a trade or busi-25 ness and the lessor shall be treated as the owner of

21

the property and the lessee shall be treated as the lessee of the property.

"(2) CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS MUST BE MET.—
The requirements of this subsection are met if the minimum investment of the lessor at the time the property is first placed in service under the lease and at all times during the lease term is not less than 10 percent of the adjusted basis of such property and the term of the lease (including any extensions) does not exceed the greater of 90 percent of the useful life of such property or 150 percent of the class life of such property.

"(3) No other factors taken into account.—If the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) are met with respect to any transaction described in paragraph (1), no other factors shall be taken into account in making a determination as to whether paragraph (1) applies with respect to the transaction.

"(4) QUALIFIED LEASED PROPERTY.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'qualified leased property' means property used in the provision of intercity rail passenger service which was leased within 3 months after such property was placed in service by the lessee and with respect to which the

adjusted basis of the lesser does not exceed the adjusted basis of the lessee at the time of the lease.

"(5) MINIMUM INVESTMENT. For purposes of paragraph (1), the term 'minimum investment' means the amount the lessor has at risk with respect to the property (other than financing from the lessee or a related party of the lessee). For the purposes of the preceding sentence, an agreement between the lessor and lessee requiring either or both parties to purchase or sell the qualified leased property at some price (whether or not fixed in the agreement at the end of the lease term) shall not affect the amount the lessor is treated as having at risk with respect to the property.

"(6) USE OF PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND FINANCING.—A private activity bond issued to finance
qualified leased property shall be deemed to be a
qualified bond (within the meaning of section 141)
for the purpose of section 103 and subpart A of part
IV of this chapter. Qualified leased property financed by a private activity bond shall not be
deemed to be 'tax-exempt bond financed property' or
'tax-exempt use property' for the purpose of subsection (g).

1	"(7) CHARACTERIZATION BY PARTIES.—For
2	purposes of this subsection, any determination as to
3	whether a person is a lessor or lessee, or whether
4	property is leased, shall be made on the basis of the
5	characterization of such person or property under
6	the agreement described in paragraph (1).
7	"(8) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall pre-
8	scribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry
9	out the purposes of this subsection, including regula
10	tions consistent with such purposes which limit the
11	aggregate amount of (and timing of) deductions and
12	eredits in respect of qualified leased property to the
13	aggregate amount (and the timing) allowable with-
14	out regard to this subsection.".
15	(b) Effective Date.—The amendment made by
16	this section shall apply with respect to property placed in
17	service after the date of enactment of this Act.
18	SEC. 1005. ISSUANCE OF TAX-EXEMPT DEBT.
19	(a) In General.—Section 150 of the Internal Reve-
20	nue Code of 1986 (relating to definitions and special
21	rules) is amended by adding at the end thereof the follow-
22	ing:
23	"(f) Intercity Rail Passenger Bonds.—
24	"(1) In General. For purposes of this part

and section 103—

25

1	"(A) TREATMENT AS STATE OR LOCAL
2	BOND.—An intercity rail passenger bond shall
3	be treated as a State or local bond.
4	"(B) DEFINITION OF INTERCITY RAIL PAS-
5	SENGER BOND.—The term 'intercity rail pas-
6	senger bond' means a bond issued by an inter-
7	city passenger railroad created under an Act of
8	Congress (or a related party thereto) 95 per-
9	cent or more of the net proceeds of which are
10	to be used by the issuer (or a related party) in
11	the trade or business of operating an intercity
12	passenger railroad, including the acquisition,
13	construction, reconstruction, or improvement of
14	property to be used for such purposes and other
15	general purposes of the issuer. Issuance of not
16	more than \$100,000,000 per year shall be
17	treated as a State or local bond under this sec-
18	tion.
19	"(C) Not federally-guaranteed or
20	PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND.—An intercity rail
21	passenger bond shall not be treated as a private
22	activity bond or as Federally guaranteed.
23	"(2) Coordination with other provi-
24 s	IONS —

1	"(A) TREATMENT OF BOND-FINANCED
2	PROPERTY.—Property acquired with the pro-
3	ceeds of intercity rail passenger bonds shall not
4	be treated as tax-exempt bond financed prop-
5	erty for purposes of section 168.
6	"(B) TREATMENT OF ISSUER.—The issuer
7	of such a bond shall not be treated as a tax-
8	exempt entity for any purpose of this title solely
9	because of such issuance.
10	"(C) Treatment of Lease Agree-
11	MENTS.—An agreement entered into by the is-
12	suer of such a bond which otherwise qualifies as
13	a lease of property to the issuer under this title
14	will be treated as a lease, notwithstanding any
15	use of proceeds of the bonds to finance the ac-
16	quisition of leased property.".
17	(b) Effective Date.—The amendment made by
18	subsection (a) applies to bonds issued after the date of

S 1318 RS——2

19 enactment of this Act.

S 1318 RS——3

S 1318 RS——4

S 1318 RS——5