

title IV, § 401(a)(1), (b)–(d), Apr. 5, 2000, 114 Stat. 129; Pub. L. 108–168, § 3(a), Dec. 6, 2003, 117 Stat. 2033.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2003—Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 108–168 added subsec. (j).

2000—Subsec. (g)(2). Pub. L. 106–181, § 401(a)(1), substituted “transportation and in the event of an accident involving a foreign air carrier that occurs within the United States,” for “transportation,” inserted “(including any associate, agent, employee, or other representative of an attorney)” after “attorney,” and substituted “45th day” for “30th day”.

Subsec. (g)(3). Pub. L. 106–181, § 401(b), added par. (3).

Subsec. (h)(2). Pub. L. 106–181, § 401(c), amended heading and text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The term ‘passenger’ includes an employee of an air carrier aboard an aircraft.”

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 106–181, § 401(d), added subsec. (i).

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 106–181 applicable only to fiscal years beginning after Sept. 30, 1999, see section 3 of Pub. L. 106–181, set out as a note under section 106 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Except as otherwise specifically provided, section applicable only to fiscal years beginning after Sept. 30, 1996, and not to be construed as affecting funds made available for a fiscal year ending before Oct. 1, 1996, see section 3 of Pub. L. 104–264, set out as an Effective Date of 1996 Amendment note under section 106 of this title.

### § 1137. Authority of the Inspector General

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Inspector General of the Department of Transportation, in accordance with the mission of the Inspector General to prevent and detect fraud and abuse, shall have authority to review only the financial management, property management, and business operations of the National Transportation Safety Board, including internal accounting and administrative control systems, to determine compliance with applicable Federal laws, rules, and regulations.

(b) **DUTIES.**—In carrying out this section, the Inspector General shall—

(1) keep the Chairman of the Board and Congress fully and currently informed about problems relating to administration of the internal accounting and administrative control systems of the Board;

(2) issue findings and recommendations for actions to address such problems; and

(3) report periodically to Congress on any progress made in implementing actions to address such problems.

(c) **ACCESS TO INFORMATION.**—In carrying out this section, the Inspector General may exercise authorities granted to the Inspector General under subsections (a) and (b) of section 6 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

(d) **AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—

(1) **FUNDING.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation for use by the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation such sums as may be necessary to cover expenses associated with activities pursuant to the authority exercised under this section.

(2) **REIMBURSABLE AGREEMENT.**—In the absence of an appropriation under this sub-

section for an expense referred to in paragraph (1), the Inspector General and the Board shall have a reimbursable agreement to cover such expense.

(Added Pub. L. 106–424, § 12(a), Nov. 1, 2000, 114 Stat. 1887; amended Pub. L. 109–443, § 4, Dec. 21, 2006, 120 Stat. 3299.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 6 of the Inspector General Act of 1978, referred to in subsec. (c), is section 6 of Pub. L. 95–452, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

#### AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 109–443 amended heading and text of subsec. (d) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Inspector General shall be reimbursed by the Board for the costs associated with carrying out activities under this section.”

### § 1138. Evaluation and audit of National Transportation Safety Board

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—To promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration of the programs, operations, and activities of the National Transportation Safety Board, the Comptroller General of the United States shall evaluate and audit the programs and expenditures of the National Transportation Safety Board. Such evaluation and audit shall be conducted at least annually, but may be conducted as determined necessary by the Comptroller General or the appropriate congressional committees.

(b) **RESPONSIBILITY OF COMPTROLLER GENERAL.**—The Comptroller General shall evaluate and audit Board programs, operations, and activities, including—

(1) information management and security, including privacy protection of personally identifiable information;

(2) resource management;

(3) workforce development;

(4) procurement and contracting planning, practices and policies;

(5) the extent to which the Board follows leading practices in selected management areas; and

(6) the extent to which the Board addresses management challenges in completing accident investigations.

(c) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—For purposes of this section the term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

(Added Pub. L. 109–443, § 5(a), Dec. 21, 2006, 120 Stat. 3299.)

### § 1139. Assistance to families of passengers involved in rail passenger accidents

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—As soon as practicable after being notified of a rail passenger accident within the United States involving a rail passenger carrier and resulting in a major loss of life, the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board shall—