

ing plans for which the Secretary has issued training regulations before the date of enactment of the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008.

(Added Pub. L. 110-432, div. A, title IV, §401(a), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4883.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (c), is the date of enactment of div. A of Pub. L. 110-432, which was approved Oct. 16, 2008.

REPORT AND REGULATIONS ON CERTIFICATION OF CERTAIN CRAFTS OR CLASSES OF EMPLOYEES

Pub. L. 110-432, div. A, title IV, §402(b)-(d), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4884, provided that:

“(b) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after promulgating regulations under section 20162 of title 49, United States Code, the Secretary shall issue a report to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure about whether the certification of certain crafts or classes of railroad carrier or railroad contractor or subcontractor employees is necessary to reduce the number and rate of accidents and incidents or to improve railroad safety.

“(c) CRAFTS AND CLASSES TO BE CONSIDERED.—As part of the report, the Secretary shall consider—

- “(1) car repair and maintenance employees;
- “(2) onboard service workers;
- “(3) rail welders;
- “(4) dispatchers;

“(5) signal repair and maintenance employees; and
“(6) any other craft or class of employees that the Secretary determines appropriate.

“(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe regulations requiring the certification of certain crafts or classes of employees that the Secretary determines pursuant to the report required by paragraph (1) are necessary to reduce the number and rate of accidents and incidents or to improve railroad safety.”

[For definitions of “Secretary”, “railroad carrier”, and “railroad”, as used in section 402(b)-(d) of Pub. L. 110-432, set out above, see section 2(a) of Pub. L. 110-432, set out as a note under section 20102 of this title.]

§ 20163. Certification of train conductors

(a) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008, the Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe regulations to establish a program requiring the certification of train conductors. In prescribing such regulations, the Secretary shall require that train conductors be trained, in accordance with the training standards developed pursuant to section 20162.

(b) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—In developing the regulations required by subsection (a), the Secretary may consider the requirements of section 20135(b) through (e).

(Added Pub. L. 110-432, div. A, title IV, §402(a), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4884.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008, referred to in subsec. (a), is the date of enactment of div. A of Pub. L. 110-432, which was approved Oct. 16, 2008.

§ 20164. Development and use of rail safety technology

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after enactment of the Railroad Safety Enhancement

Act of 2008,¹ the Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe standards, guidance, regulations, or orders governing the development, use, and implementation of rail safety technology in dark territory, in arrangements not defined in section 20501 or otherwise not covered by Federal standards, guidance, regulations, or orders that ensure the safe operation of such technology, such as—

- (1) switch position monitoring devices or indicators;
- (2) radio, remote control, or other power-assisted switches;
- (3) hot box, high water, or earthquake detectors;
- (4) remote control locomotive zone limiting devices;
- (5) slide fences;
- (6) grade crossing video monitors;
- (7) track integrity warning systems; or
- (8) other similar rail safety technologies, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) DARK TERRITORY DEFINED.—In this section, the term “dark territory” means any territory in a railroad system that does not have a signal or train control system installed or operational.

(Added Pub. L. 110-432, div. A, title IV, §406(a), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4886.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Railroad Safety Enhancement Act of 2008, referred to in subsec. (a), probably means the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008, div. A of Pub. L. 110-432, which was approved Oct. 16, 2008.

§ 20165. Limitations on non-Federal alcohol and drug testing

(a) TESTING REQUIREMENTS.—Any non-Federal alcohol and drug testing program of a railroad carrier must provide that all post-employment tests of the specimens of employees who are subject to both the program and chapter 211 of this title be conducted using a scientifically recognized method of testing capable of determining the presence of the specific analyte at a level above the cut-off level established by the carrier.

(b) REDRESS PROCESS.—Each railroad carrier that has a non-Federal alcohol and drug testing program must provide a redress process to its employees who are subject to both the alcohol and drug testing program and chapter 211 of this title for such an employee to petition for and receive a carrier hearing to review his or her specimen test results that were determined to be in violation of the program. A dispute or grievance raised by a railroad carrier or its employee, except a probationary employee, in connection with the carrier’s alcohol and drug testing program and the application of this section is subject to resolution under section 3 of the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 153).

(Added Pub. L. 110-432, div. A, title IV, §409(a), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4887.)

§ 20166. Emergency escape breathing apparatus

Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Rail Safety Improvement Act of

¹ See References in Text note below.