

CHAPTER 5—SPECIAL AUTHORITY

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AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-178, title IV, §4014(a)(2), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 411, added item 508.
 1997—Pub. L. 105-102, §2(1), Nov. 20, 1997, 111 Stat. 2204, struck out “DUTIES AND” before “POWERS” in item for heading of subchapter I.

SUBCHAPTER I—POWERS

AMENDMENTS

1997—Pub. L. 105-102, §2(2), Nov. 20, 1997, 111 Stat. 2204, struck out “AND” before “POWERS”.
 1995—Pub. L. 104-88, title III, §308(c)(1), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 947, struck out “DUTIES” before “AND”.

§ 501. Definitions and application

- (a) In this chapter—
 - (1) the definitions in sections 10102 and 13102 of this title apply.
 - (2) “migrant worker” has the same meaning given that term in section 31501 of this title.
 - (3) “motor carrier of migrant workers” means a motor carrier of migrant workers subject to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Transportation under section 31502(c) of this title.

(b) APPLICATION.—This chapter only applies in carrying out sections 20302(a)(1)(B) and (C), (2), and (3), (c), and (d)(1) and 20303 and chapters 205 (except section 20504(b)), 211, 213 (in carrying out those sections and chapters), and 315 of this title.

(Pub. L. 97-449, §1(b), Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2431; Pub. L. 98-216, §2(2), Feb. 14, 1984, 98 Stat. 5; Pub. L. 102-548, §2(c), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 3648; Pub. L. 103-272, §§4(j)(11)(A), 5(m)(9), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1368, 1376; Pub. L. 104-88, title III, §308(c)(2), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 947.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES
PUB. L. 97-449

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
501(a)	(no source).	
501(b)	45:15.	Apr. 14, 1910, ch. 160, §6, 36 Stat. 299.

¹Section catchline amended by Pub. L. 112-141 without corresponding amendment of chapter analysis.

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES—CONTINUED
PUB. L. 97-449

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
	49:26(g).	Feb. 4, 1887, ch. 104, 24 Stat. 379, §25(g); added Aug. 26, 1937, ch. 818, 50 Stat. 837; Sept. 18, 1940, ch. 722, §14(b), 54 Stat. 919.
	49:1655(f)(2).	Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89-670, §6(f)(2), 80 Stat. 940.

In the chapter, the source provisions are those in effect on March 31, 1967, the day before the effective date of the Department of Transportation Act (Pub. L. 89-670, 80 Stat. 931), because 49:1655(f)(2) gave the Secretary of Transportation the same powers enumerated in 49:1655(f)(2) that the Interstate Commerce Commission had before certain duties and powers under 49:1655(e) were transferred on April 1, 1967, from the Commission to the Secretary. All references to brokers in the source provisions are omitted as not being applicable to the duties and powers transferred to the Secretary of Transportation.

Subsection (a) is included to ensure that the identical definitions that are relevant are used without repeating them. The source provisions for the definitions are found in the revision notes for sections 3101, 3102(c), and 10102 of the revised title.

In subsection (b), the provisions of law to which the chapter applies are only certain laws listed in 49:1655(e). Those laws include the source provisions restated in chapter 31 of the revised title and 45:4, 5, 6 (in carrying out 45:4 and 5), 11, 12, 13 (proviso), 13 (less proviso in carrying out 45:11, 12, and 13 (proviso)), and 61-64b, and 49:26(a)-(f) (words before last semicolon) and (h). The administrative powers of the Secretary under the chapter are based on the administrative powers of 49:1655(f)(2). That provision lists administrative powers the Commission had under the Interstate Commerce Act (ch. 104, 24 Stat. 379) to carry out the Act, and certain other laws authorized the Commission to use its powers under the Act to carry out those other laws. The administrative powers listed in 49:1655(f)(2) and codified in the chapter therefore apply only to a law listed in 49:1655(e) that was a part of the Interstate Commerce Act or to which the powers of the Commission under the Act were applied. The text of 45:61-64b is included because section 4 of the Act of March 4, 1907 (ch. 2939, 34 Stat. 1417), stated, “It shall be the duty of the Interstate Commerce Commission to execute and enforce the provisions of this Act, and all powers granted to the Interstate Commerce Commission are hereby extended to it in the execution of this Act”. The transfer to the Secretary was executed on March 31, 1967. The Act of March 4, 1907, was restated by the Act of December 26, 1969 (Pub. L. 91-169, 83 Stat. 463); section 4 was not included in the restatement. However, repeal by implication is not favored and the transfer was completed on March 31, 1967. Therefore, the text of 45:61-64b is included within the scope of the chapter. The text of 49:304(a)(3) (last sentence 1st-7th words) and (3a) (last sentence 1st-5th words) is omitted as executed.

PUB. L. 103-272

Section 4(j)(11) makes conforming amendments to 49:ch. 5 to reflect the restatement of 49:508 and related provisions in chapter 59 of the revised title.

AMENDMENTS

1995—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 104-88 substituted “sections 10102 and 13102” for “section 10102”.
 1994—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 103-272, §5(m)(9)(A), substituted “section 31501” for “section 3101”.
 Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 103-272, §5(m)(9)(B), substituted “section 31502(c)” for “section 3102(c)”.
 Subsec. (a)(4) to (9). Pub. L. 103-272, §4(j)(11)(A), struck out pars. (4) to (9) which defined “beneficial owner”, “carrier”, “container”, “initial carrier”, “intermodal transportation”, and “trailer”, respectively.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 103-272, §5(m)(9)(C), added subsec. (b) and struck out former subsec. (b) which read as follows: "This chapter only applies in carrying out—

"(1) chapter 31 of this title; and

"(2) other duties and powers transferred to the Secretary under section 6(e) of the Department of Transportation Act (49 App. U.S.C. 1655(e)) and vested in the Interstate Commerce Commission before October 15, 1966."

1992—Subsec. (a)(4) to (9). Pub. L. 102-548 added pars. (4) to (9).

1984—Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 98-216 substituted "49 App. U.S.C." for "49 U.S.C."

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1995 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-88 effective Jan. 1, 1996, see section 2 of Pub. L. 104-88, set out as an Effective Date note under section 1301 of this title.

SHORT TITLE OF 1992 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 102-548, §1, Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 3646, provided that: "This Act [enacting section 508 of this title, amending this section and section 521 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under section 508 of this title] may be cited as the 'Intermodal Safe Container Transportation Act of 1992'."

§ 502. General authority

(a) The Secretary of Transportation shall carry out this chapter.

(b) The Secretary may—

(1) inquire into and report on the management of the business of rail carriers and motor carriers;

(2) inquire into and report on the management of the business of a person controlling, controlled by, or under common control with those carriers to the extent that the business of the person is related to the management of the business of that carrier; and

(3) obtain from those carriers and persons information the Secretary determines to be necessary.

(c) In carrying out this chapter as it applies to motor carriers, motor carriers of migrant workers, and motor private carriers, the Secretary may—

(1) confer and hold joint hearings with State authorities;

(2) cooperate with and use the services, records, and facilities of State authorities; and

(3) make cooperative agreements with a State to enforce the safety laws and regulations of a State and the United States related to highway transportation.

(d) The Secretary may subpoena witnesses and records related to a proceeding or investigation under this chapter from a place in the United States to the designated place of the proceeding or investigation. If a witness disobeys a subpoena, the Secretary, or a party to a proceeding or investigation before the Secretary, may petition the district court for the judicial district in which the proceeding or investigation is conducted to enforce the subpoena. The court may punish a refusal to obey an order of the court to comply with a subpoena as a contempt of court.

(e)(1) In a proceeding or investigation, the Secretary may take testimony of a witness by deposition and may order the witness to produce records. A party to a proceeding or investigation pending before the Secretary may take the tes-

timony of a witness by deposition and may require the witness to produce records at any time after a proceeding or investigation is at issue on petition and answer. If a witness fails to be deposed or to produce records under this subsection, the Secretary may subpoena the witness to take a deposition, produce the records, or both.

(2) A deposition may be taken before a judge of a court of the United States, a United States magistrate judge, a clerk of a district court, or a chancellor, justice, or judge of a supreme or superior court, mayor or chief magistrate of a city, judge of a county court, or court of common pleas of any State, or a notary public who is not counsel or attorney of a party or interested in the proceeding or investigation.

(3) Before taking a deposition, reasonable notice must be given in writing by the party or the attorney of that party proposing to take a deposition to the opposing party or the attorney of record of that party, whoever is nearest. The notice shall state the name of the witness and the time and place of taking the deposition.

(4) The testimony of a person deposed under this subsection shall be taken under oath. The person taking the deposition shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, a transcript of the testimony taken. The transcript shall be subscribed by the deponent.

(5) The testimony of a witness who is in a foreign country may be taken by deposition before an officer or person designated by the Secretary or agreed on by the parties by written stipulation filed with the Secretary. The deposition shall be filed with the Secretary promptly.

(f) Each witness summoned before the Secretary or whose deposition is taken under this section and the individual taking the deposition are entitled to the same fees and mileage paid for those services in the courts of the United States.

(Pub. L. 97-449, §1(b), Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2431; Pub. L. 103-272, §4(j)(12), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1368.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

PUB. L. 97-449

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
502	49:1655(f)(2).	Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89-670, §6(f)(2), 80 Stat. 940.
502(c)-(f)	49:304(a)(3) (last sentence) (related to "Sec. 305"). 49:304(a)(3a) (last sentence) (related to "Sec. 305").	Feb. 4, 1887, ch. 104, 24 Stat. 379, §204(a)(3) (last sentence) (related to "Sec. 205"); added Aug. 9, 1935, ch. 498, 49 Stat. 546. Feb. 4, 1887, ch. 104, 24 Stat. 379, §204(a)(3a) (last sentence) (related to "Sec. 205"); added Aug. 3, 1956, ch. 905, §2, 70 Stat. 958.

The section is included because 49:1655(f)(2) gave the same administrative powers exercised by the Interstate Commerce Commission under certain sections of title 49 to the Secretary of Transportation to carry out duties transferred to the Secretary by 49:1655(e). See the revision notes for section 501 of the revised title for an explanation of the transfer under 49:1655(f)(2). The powers of the Commission have been codified in subtitle IV of the revised title. The comparable provisions of title 49 that are represented by the section may be found as follows: