

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

PUB. L. 104-287, §5(29)(A)

This amends 49:13709(a)(1) and (3) for clarity and consistency.

PUB. L. 104-287, §5(29)(B)

This amends 49:13709(e) by setting out the effective date for 49:13709 and for clarity and consistency.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Subchapter II of chapter 105, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), was omitted in the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §102(a), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 804, effective Jan. 1, 1996.

Chapter 119, referred to in subsec. (a)(3), was omitted and a new chapter 119 enacted in the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §102(a), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 804, 849, effective Jan. 1, 1996.

The Small Business Act, referred to in subsec. (h)(1)(A), is Pub. L. 85-536, §2(1 et seq.), July 18, 1958, 72 Stat. 384, which is classified generally to chapter 14A (§631 et seq.) of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 631 of Title 15 and Tables.

Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, referred to in subsec. (h)(1)(B), is classified to section 501 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 10701 of this title prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a)(1), (3). Pub. L. 104-287, §5(29)(A), substituted “December 31, 1995” for “the day before the effective date of this section”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 104-287, §5(29)(B), substituted “January 1, 1996” for “the effective date of this section” and “December 31, 1995” for “the day before such effective date”.

ABOLITION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

Interstate Commerce Commission abolished by section 101 of Pub. L. 104-88, set out as a note under section 1301 of this title.

§ 13710. Additional billing and collecting practices

(a) MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.—

(1) INFORMATION RELATING TO BASIS OF RATE.—A motor carrier of property (other than a motor carrier providing transportation in noncontiguous domestic trade) shall provide to the shipper, on request of the shipper, a written or electronic copy of the rate, classification, rules, and practices, upon which any rate applicable to its shipment or agreed to between the shipper and carrier is based.

(2) REASONABLENESS OF RATES; COLLECTING ADDITIONAL CHARGES.—When the applicability or reasonableness of the rates and related provisions billed by a motor carrier is challenged by the person paying the freight charges, the Board shall determine whether such rates and provisions are reasonable under section 13701 or applicable based on the record before it.

(3) BILLING DISPUTES.—

(A) INITIATED BY MOTOR CARRIERS.—In those cases where a motor carrier (other than a motor carrier providing transportation of household goods or in noncontiguous domestic trade) seeks to collect

charges in addition to those billed and collected which are contested by the payor, the carrier may request that the Board determine whether any additional charges over those billed and collected must be paid. A carrier must issue any bill for charges in addition to those originally billed within 180 days of the receipt of the original bill in order to have the right to collect such charges.

(B) INITIATED BY SHIPPERS.—If a shipper seeks to contest the charges originally billed or additional charges subsequently billed, the shipper may request that the Board determine whether the charges billed must be paid. A shipper must contest the original bill or subsequent bill within 180 days of receipt of the bill in order to have the right to contest such charges.

(4) VOIDING OF CERTAIN TARIFFS.—Any tariff on file with the Interstate Commerce Commission on August 26, 1994, and not required to be filed after that date is null and void beginning on that date. Any tariff on file with the Interstate Commerce Commission on January 1, 1996, and not required to be filed after that date is null and void beginning on that date.

(b) RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES OVER STATUS OF COMMON CARRIER OR CONTRACT CARRIER.—If a motor carrier (other than a motor carrier providing transportation of household goods) that was subject to jurisdiction under subchapter II of chapter 105, as in effect on December 31, 1995, and that had authority to provide transportation as both a motor common carrier and a motor contract carrier and a dispute arises as to whether certain transportation that was provided prior to January 1, 1996, was provided in its common carrier or contract carrier capacity and the parties are not able to resolve the dispute consensually, the Board shall resolve the dispute.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §103, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 876; amended Pub. L. 104-287, §5(30), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3391.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

PUB. L. 104-287, §5(30)(A)

This sets out the effective date of 49:13710.

PUB. L. 104-287, §5(30)(B)

This amends 49:13710(b) by setting out the effective date for 49:13710 and for clarity and consistency.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Subchapter II of chapter 105, referred to in subsec. (b), was omitted in the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §102(a), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 804, effective Jan. 1, 1996.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in sections 10762 and 11101 of this title prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 104-287, §5(30)(A), substituted “January 1, 1996,” for “the effective date of this section”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-287, §5(30)(B), substituted “December 31, 1995” for “the day before the effective

date of this section” and “January 1, 1996,” for “the effective date of this section”.

ABOLITION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

Interstate Commerce Commission abolished by section 101 of Pub. L. 104-88, set out as a note under section 1301 of this title.

§ 13711. Alternative procedure for resolving undercharge disputes

(a) GENERAL RULE.—It shall be an unreasonable practice for a motor carrier of property (other than a household goods carrier) providing transportation subject to jurisdiction under subchapter I of chapter 135 or, before January 1, 1996, to have provided transportation that was subject to jurisdiction under subchapter II of chapter 105, as in effect on December 31, 1995, a freight forwarder (other than a household goods freight forwarder), or a party representing such a carrier or freight forwarder to attempt to charge or to charge for a transportation service the difference between (1) the applicable rate that was lawfully in effect pursuant to a tariff that was filed in accordance with this chapter or, with respect to transportation provided before January 1, 1996, in accordance with chapter 107, as in effect on the date the transportation was provided, by the carrier or freight forwarder applicable to such transportation service, and (2) the negotiated rate for such transportation service if the carrier or freight forwarder is no longer transporting property between places described in section 13501(1) or is transporting property between places described in section 13501(1) for the purpose of avoiding application of this section.

(b) JURISDICTION OF BOARD.—

(1) DETERMINATION.—The Board shall have jurisdiction to make a determination of whether or not attempting to charge or the charging of a rate by a motor carrier or freight forwarder or party representing a motor carrier or freight forwarder is an unreasonable practice under subsection (a). If the Board determines that attempting to charge or the charging of the rate is an unreasonable practice under subsection (a), the carrier, freight forwarder, or party may not collect the difference described in subsection (a) between the applicable rate and the negotiated rate for the transportation service.

(2) FACTORS TO CONSIDER.—In making a determination under paragraph (1), the Board shall consider—

(A) whether the person was offered a transportation rate by the carrier or freight forwarder or party other than that legally on file with the Interstate Commerce Commission or the Board, as required, at the time of the movement for the transportation service;

(B) whether the person tendered freight to the carrier or freight forwarder in reasonable reliance upon the offered transportation rate;

(C) whether the carrier or freight forwarder did not properly or timely file with the Interstate Commerce Commission or the Board, as required, a tariff providing for such transportation rate or failed to enter into an agreement for contract carriage;

(D) whether the transportation rate was billed and collected by the carrier or freight forwarder; and

(E) whether the carrier or freight forwarder or party demands additional payment of a higher rate filed in a tariff.

(c) STAY OF ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION.—When a person proceeds under this section to challenge the reasonableness of the practice of a motor carrier, freight forwarder, or party described in subsection (a) to attempt to charge or to charge the difference described in subsection (a) between the applicable rate and the negotiated rate for the transportation service in addition to those charges already billed and collected for the transportation service, the person shall not have to pay any additional compensation to the carrier, freight forwarder, or party until the Board has made a determination as to the reasonableness of the practice as applied to the freight of the person against whom the claim is made.

(d) TREATMENT.—Subsection (a) is an exception to the requirements of section 13702 and, for transportation provided before January 1, 1996, to the requirements of sections 10761(a) and 10762, as in effect on December 31, 1995, as such sections relate to a filed tariff rate and other general tariff requirements.

(e) NONAPPLICABILITY OF NEGOTIATED RATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE.—If a person elects to seek enforcement of subsection (a) with respect to a rate for a transportation or service, section 13709 shall not apply to such rate.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term “negotiated rate” means a rate, charge, classification, or rule agreed upon by a motor carrier or freight forwarder and a shipper through negotiations pursuant to which no tariff was lawfully and timely filed and for which there is written evidence of such agreement.

(g) APPLICABILITY TO PENDING CASES.—This section shall apply to all cases and proceedings pending on January 1, 1996.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §103, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 877; amended Pub. L. 104-287, §5(31), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3391.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

PUB. L. 104-287

This amends 49:13711(a), (d), and (g) by setting out the effective date of 49:13711 and for clarity and consistency.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Subchapter II of chapter 105, referred to in subsec. (a), was omitted in the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §102(a), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 804, effective Jan. 1, 1996.

Chapter 107, as in effect on the date transportation was provided, referred to in subsec. (a), means chapter 107 of this title, as in effect on the date transportation was provided with respect to transportation provided before Jan. 1, 1996. Chapter 107 (§10701 et seq.) was omitted and a new chapter 107 enacted in the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §102(a), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 804, 809, effective Jan. 1, 1996.

Sections 10761(a) and 10762, referred to in subsec. (d), were omitted in the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §102(a), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 804, effective Jan. 1, 1996.