

(Added Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title VI, § 6019(b)(1), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1579.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 2015, see section 1003 of Pub. L. 114-94, set out as an Effective Date of 2015 Amendment note under section 5313 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 6503. Transportation research and development 5-year strategic plan

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop a 5-year transportation research and development strategic plan to guide future Federal transportation research and development activities.

(b) CONSISTENCY.—The strategic plan developed under subsection (a) shall be consistent with—

- (1) section 306 of title 5;
(2) sections 1115 and 1116 of title 31; and
(3) any other research and development plan within the Department of Transportation.

(c) CONTENTS.—The strategic plan developed under subsection (a) shall—

- (1) describe how the plan furthers the primary purposes of the transportation research and development program, which shall include—
(A) improving mobility of people and goods;
(B) reducing congestion;
(C) promoting safety;
(D) improving the durability and extending the life of transportation infrastructure;
(E) preserving the environment; and
(F) preserving the existing transportation system;
(2) for each of the purposes referred to in paragraph (1), list the primary proposed research and development activities that the Department of Transportation intends to pursue to accomplish that purpose, which may include—
(A) fundamental research pertaining to the applied physical and natural sciences;
(B) applied science and research;
(C) technology development research; and
(D) social science research; and
(3) for each research and development activity—
(A) identify the anticipated annual funding levels for the period covered by the strategic plan; and
(B) describe the research findings the Department expects to discover at the end of the period covered by the strategic plan.

(d) CONSIDERATIONS.—The Secretary shall ensure that the strategic plan developed under this section—

- (1) reflects input from a wide range of external stakeholders;
(2) includes and integrates the research and development programs of all of the modal administrations of the Department of Transportation, including aviation, transit, rail, and maritime and joint programs;
(3) takes into account research and development by other Federal, State, local, private sector, and nonprofit institutions;

(4) not later than December 31, 2016, is published on a public website; and

(5) takes into account how research and development by other Federal, State, private sector, and nonprofit institutions—

- (A) contributes to the achievement of the purposes identified under subsection (c)(1); and
(B) avoids unnecessary duplication of those efforts.

(e) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 2 1/2 years after the date of enactment of this chapter, the Secretary may publish on a public website an interim report that—

- (1) provides an assessment of the 5-year research and development strategic plan of the Department of Transportation described in this section; and
(2) includes a description of the extent to which the research and development is or is not successfully meeting the purposes described under subsection (c)(1).

(Added Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title VI, § 6019(b)(1), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1580.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this chapter, referred to in subsec. (e), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 114-94, which was approved Dec. 4, 2015.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 2015, see section 1003 of Pub. L. 114-94, set out as an Effective Date of 2015 Amendment note under section 5313 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

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PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior subtitle IV, consisting of chapters 101 to 119, related to interstate commerce, prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

AMENDMENTS

1997—Pub. L. 105-102, §2(5), Nov. 20, 1997, 111 Stat. 2204, struck out “AND TARIFFS” after “RATES” in item for chapter 155.

PART A—RAIL

CHAPTER 101—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec.	
10101.	Rail transportation policy.
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§ 10101. Rail transportation policy

In regulating the railroad industry, it is the policy of the United States Government—

- (1) to allow, to the maximum extent possible, competition and the demand for services to establish reasonable rates for transportation by rail;
- (2) to minimize the need for Federal regulatory control over the rail transportation system and to require fair and expeditious regulatory decisions when regulation is required;
- (3) to promote a safe and efficient rail transportation system by allowing rail carriers to earn adequate revenues, as determined by the Board;
- (4) to ensure the development and continuation of a sound rail transportation system with effective competition among rail carriers and with other modes, to meet the needs of the public and the national defense;
- (5) to foster sound economic conditions in transportation and to ensure effective competition and coordination between rail carriers and other modes;
- (6) to maintain reasonable rates where there is an absence of effective competition and where rail rates provide revenues which exceed the amount necessary to maintain the rail system and to attract capital;
- (7) to reduce regulatory barriers to entry into and exit from the industry;
- (8) to operate transportation facilities and equipment without detriment to the public health and safety;
- (9) to encourage honest and efficient management of railroads;
- (10) to require rail carriers, to the maximum extent practicable, to rely on individual rate increases, and to limit the use of increases of general applicability;
- (11) to encourage fair wages and safe and suitable working conditions in the railroad industry;
- (12) to prohibit predatory pricing and practices, to avoid undue concentrations of market

power, and to prohibit unlawful discrimination;

(13) to ensure the availability of accurate cost information in regulatory proceedings, while minimizing the burden on rail carriers of developing and maintaining the capability of providing such information;

(14) to encourage and promote energy conservation; and

(15) to provide for the expeditious handling and resolution of all proceedings required or permitted to be brought under this part.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §102(a), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 805.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Prior sections 10101 and 10101a were omitted in the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

Section 10101, Pub. L. 95-473, Oct. 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 1337; Pub. L. 96-296, §4, July 1, 1980, 94 Stat. 793; Pub. L. 96-448, title I, §101(b), Oct. 14, 1980, 94 Stat. 1898; Pub. L. 97-261, §5, Sept. 20, 1982, 96 Stat. 1103; Pub. L. 103-311, title II, §204, Aug. 26, 1994, 108 Stat. 1683, related to transportation policy. See sections 13101 and 15101 of this title.

Section 10101a, added Pub. L. 96-448, title I, §101(a), Oct. 14, 1980, 94 Stat. 1897, related to rail transportation policy.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Chapter effective Jan. 1, 1996, except as otherwise provided in Pub. L. 104-88, see section 2 of Pub. L. 104-88, set out as a note under section 1301 of this title.

SHORT TITLE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 110-432, div. A, title VI, §601, Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4900, provided that: “This title [enacting sections 10908 to 10910 of this title and amending section 10501 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Clean Railroads Act of 2008.’”

Pub. L. 110-291, §1, July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2915, provided that: “This Act [amending sections 13102, 13902, and 13905 of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under section 13902 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Over-the-Road Bus Transportation Accessibility Act of 2007.’”

SHORT TITLE OF 2005 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 109-59, title IV, §4201, Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1751, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle B (§§4201-4216) of title IV of Pub. L. 109-59, enacting sections 14710, 14711, and 14915 of this title, amending sections 13102, 13707, 13902, 14104, 14501, 14706, 14708, and 14901 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 13102, 14701, 14706, and 14710 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Household Goods Mover Oversight Enforcement and Reform Act of 2005’[.]”

Pub. L. 109-59, title IV, §4301, Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1761, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle C (§§4301-4308) of title IV of Pub. L. 109-59, enacting sections 14504a and 14506 of this title, amending sections 13902, 13905, 13906, 13908, 31102, and 31103 of this title, repealing section 14504 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 13902 and 14504 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2005.’”

SHORT TITLE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 107-298, §1, Nov. 26, 2002, 116 Stat. 2342, provided that: “This Act [amending sections 13102, 13506, 14501, and 31138 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Real Interstate Driver Equity Act of 2002.’”

SHORT TITLE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 99-521, §1, Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2993, provided that: “This Act [see Tables for classification] may be