settled, and shall be entitled to direct reimbursement from the Association pursuant to section 721(h) of this title, to the extent that such claims are determined by the Association or its successor authority to be the obligation of such railroad. Any liability of an estate of a railroad in reorganization which is assumed, processed, and paid, pursuant to this subsection, by the Corporation or an acquiring railroad shall remain the preconveyance obligation of the estate of such railroad for purposes of section 721(h)(1) of this title. The Corporation, an acquiring railroad, or the Association, as the case may be, shall be entitled to a direct claim as a current expense of administration, in accordance with the provisions of section 721(h) of this title (other than paragraph (4)(A) thereof), for reimbursement (including costs and expenses of processing such claims) from the estate of the railroad in reorganization on whose behalf such obligations were discharged or paid.

(Pub. L. 93–236, title VII, §709, as added Pub. L. 97–35, title XI, §1143(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 666.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

ABOLITION OF UNITED STATES RAILWAY ASSOCIATION AND TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS AND SECURITIES

See section 1341 of this title.

§ 797i. Limitations on liability

(a) Federal Government

The liability of the United States under an agreement entered into or benefit schedule prescribed under section 797¹ of this title or for payment of a termination allowance under section 797a of this title shall be limited to amounts appropriated under section 797l¹ of this title.

(b) The Corporation

- (1) The Corporation, Amtrak Commuter, and commuter authorities shall incur no liability under an agreement entered into or benefit schedule prescribed under section 797¹ of this title or for the payment of a termination allowance under section 797a of this title.
- (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, until April 1, 1984, the Corporation shall have no liability for employee protection in the event of a sale of any asset to a purchaser, and such purchaser shall assume the liability for the application of employee protection conditions imposed by the Commission for all employees adversely affected by such sale.

(Pub. L. 93–236, title VII, \$710, as added Pub. L. 97–35, title XI, \$1143(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 667)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 797 of this title, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b)(1), was repealed by Pub. L. 99-509, title IV, §4024(c), Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 1904, effective on the sale date (Apr. 2, 1987).

Section 797l of this title, referred to in subsec. (a), was repealed by Pub. L. 99–509, title IV, \$4033(a)(2), Oct.

21, 1986, 100 Stat. 1908, and a new section 797l of this title was subsequently added by Pub. L. 104-88, $\S327(5)$.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

Abolition of Interstate Commerce Commission and Transfer of Functions

Interstate Commerce Commission abolished and functions of Commission transferred, except as otherwise provided in Pub. L. 104-88, to Surface Transportation Board effective Jan. 1, 1996, by section 1302 of Title 49, Transportation, and section 101 of Pub. L. 104-88, set out as a note under section 1301 of Title 49. References to Interstate Commerce Commission deemed to refer to Surface Transportation Board, a member or employee of the Board, or Secretary of Transportation, as appropriate, see section 205 of Pub. L. 104-88, set out as a note under section 1301 of Title 49.

§ 797j. Preemption

No State may adopt or continue in force any law, rule, regulation, order, or standard requiring the Corporation to employ any specified number of persons to perform any particular task, function, or operation, or requiring the Corporation to pay protective benefits to employees, and no State in the Region may adopt or continue in force any such law, rule, regulation, order, or standard with respect to any railroad in the Region.

(Pub. L. 93–236, title VII, §711, as added Pub. L. 97–35, title XI, §1143(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 667; amended Pub. L. 103–272, §7(b), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1379.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103–272 struck out ", the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, or the Amtrak Commuter Services Corporation" before "to employ any".

§ 797k. Factfinding panel

(a) Purpose

The Corporation shall enter into collective bargaining agreements with its employees which provide for the establishment of one or more advisory factfinding panels, chaired by a neutral expert in industrial relations, for purposes of recommending changes in operating practices and procedures which result in greater productivity to the maximum extent practicable.

(b) National Mediation Board

The National Mediation Board shall appoint public members to any panel established by an agreement entered into under this subparagraph, and shall perform such functions contained in the agreement as are consistent with the duties of such Board under the Railway Labor Act [45 U.S.C. 151 et seq.].

(c) Other functions

The factfinding panel may, before making its report to the parties, provide mediation, conciliation, and other assistance to the parties.

(Pub. L. 93–236, title VII, §712, as added Pub. L. 97–35, title XI, §1143(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 668.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Railway Labor Act, referred to in subsec. (b), is act May 20, 1926, ch. 347, 44 Stat. 577, as amended, which

¹See References in Text note below.