

- Sec.
- 20160. National crossing inventory.
- 20161. Fostering introduction of new technology to improve safety at highway-rail grade crossings.
- 20162. Minimum training standards and plans.
- 20163. Certification of train conductors.
- 20164. Development and use of rail safety technology.
- 20165. Limitations on non-Federal alcohol and drug testing by railroad carriers.²
- 20166. Emergency escape breathing apparatus.
- 20167. Reports on highway-rail grade crossing safety.
- 20168. Installation of audio and image recording devices.
- 20169. Speed limit action plans.
- 20170. Pre-revenue service safety validation plan.
- 20171. Requirements for railroad freight cars placed into service in the United States.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 117-58, div. B, title II, §§ 22403(b)(2), 22415(b), 22416(b), 22425(b), Nov. 15, 2021, 135 Stat. 736, 747, 748, 756, added items 20167 and 20169 to 20171.

2015—Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title XI, §§ 11301(c)(1), 11411(b), 11413(b), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1648, 1687, 1689, added items 20121 and 20168 and struck out items 20154 “Capital grants for rail line relocation projects” and 20167 “Railroad safety infrastructure improvement grants”. Items 20121 and 20168 were added to the analysis for this chapter to reflect the probable intent of Congress, notwithstanding directory language adding those items to the analyses for subchapters I and II of this chapter, respectively.

2008—Pub. L. 110-432, div. A, title I, §§ 103(b), 104(b), 105(b), 107(b), 109(b), title II, §§ 203(b), 204(b), 205(b), 208(b), 210(b), title III, § 303(b), title IV, §§ 401(b), 402(e), 406(b), 409(b), 413(b), 418(b), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4856, 4858-4860, 4867, 4869, 4871, 4873, 4876, 4877, 4879, 4883, 4884, 4886, 4887, 4889, 4892, added items 20116 and 20118 to 20120, substituted “Railroad trespassing, vandalism, and highway-rail grade crossing warning sign violation prevention strategy” for “Railroad trespassing and vandalism prevention strategy” in item 20151 and “Notification of grade crossing problems” for “Emergency notification of grade crossing problems” in item 20152, and added items 20156 to 20167.

2005—Pub. L. 109-59, title IX, §§ 9002(a)(2), 9005(b)(2), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1921, 1925, added items 20154 and 20155.

1995—Pub. L. 104-66, title I, § 1121(g)(2), Dec. 21, 1995, 109 Stat. 724, struck out item 20116 “Biennial report”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-440, title II, §§ 206(b), 207(b), 210(b), 211(b), 212(b), 213(b), 214(b), 215(b), 219(b), title III, §§ 301(b), 302(b), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4621-4624, 4626, 4628, substituted “Biennial” for “Annual” in item 20116 and “cars” for “equipment” in item 20133 and added items 20145 to 20153.

SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL

§ 20101. Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to promote safety in every area of railroad operations and reduce railroad-related accidents and incidents.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 863.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
20101	45:421.	Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91-458, §101, 84 Stat. 971.

² So in original. Does not conform to section catchline.

The words “The Congress declares that” are omitted as surplus. The words “accidents and incidents” are substituted for “accidents” for consistency with the source provisions restated in section 20105(b)(1)(B) of the revised title. The words “and to reduce deaths and injuries to persons and to reduce damage to property caused by accidents involving any carrier of hazardous materials” are omitted as obsolete because they applied to 49 App.:1761 and 1762, that were repealed by section 113(g) of the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act (Public Law 93-633, 88 Stat. 2163).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

SHORT TITLE OF 2021 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 117-58, div. B, title II, § 22001, Nov. 15, 2021, 135 Stat. 694, provided that: “This title [see Tables for classification] may be cited as the ‘Passenger Rail Expansion and Rail Safety Act of 2021’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 2015 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title XI, § 11001, Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1622, provided that: “This title [see Tables for classification] may be cited as the ‘Passenger Rail Reform and Investment Act of 2015’.”

Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title XI, § 11501, Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1690, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle E (§§ 11501-11504) of title XI of div. A of Pub. L. 114-94, enacting sections 24201 and 24202 of this title, amending section 303 of this title and section 138 of Title 23, Highways, and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 4370m of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare] may be cited as the ‘Track, Railroad, and Infrastructure Network Act’ or the ‘TRAIN Act’.”

Pub. L. 114-73, title I, § 1302(a), Oct. 29, 2015, 129 Stat. 576, provided that: “This section [amending section 20157 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Positive Train Control Enforcement and Implementation Act of 2015’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 110-432, div. A, §1(a), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4848, provided that: “This division [see Tables for classification] may be cited as the ‘Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008’.”

Pub. L. 110-432, div. B, §1(a), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4907, provided that: “This division [enacting chapters 227, 244, and 285 of this title and sections 24105, 24310, 24316, 24702, 24710, 24711, 24910, and 26106 of this title, amending sections 103, 24101, 24102, 24302, 24308, 24706, 24904, 24905, 26101, and 26104 of this title, enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 24101, 24302, 24305, 24307, 24308, 24405, 24702, 24709, 24711, 24902, and 26106 of this title, and amending provisions set out as a note under section 24101 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1997 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 105-134, §1(a), Dec. 2, 1997, 111 Stat. 2570, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 28103 of this title, amending sections 24101, 24102, 24104, 24301 to 24307, 24309, 24312, 24315, 24701, 24706, 24902, and 24904 of this title, section 8G of the Inspector General Act of 1978, Pub. L. 95-452, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, and section 9101 of Title 31, Money and Finance, repealing sections 24310, 24314, 24501 to 24506, 24702 to 24705, 24707, 24708, and 24903 of this title, and section 1111 of Title 45, Railroads, and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and sections 24101, 24104, 24301, 24304, 24305, 24307, 24312, 24315, 24501, and 24706 of this title, section 8G of the Appendix to Title 5, and section 172 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code] may be cited as the ‘Amtrak Reform and Accountability Act of 1997’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 103-440, title I, §101, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4615, provided that: “This title [enacting sections 26101