

CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS

Pub. L. 97-468, title II, § 212, Jan. 14, 1983, 96 Stat. 2543, provided that: "The Congress finds that—

"(1) it is necessary to establish procedures to facilitate and expedite the acquisition of rail lines of carriers subject to liquidation by financially responsible persons in instances where service is not being provided over the line by the carrier and where the financially responsible person seeks to provide rail service over the line;

"(2) procedures set forth in the amendments made by this title [see Short Title of 1983 Amendment note above] represent an exercise of the powers of the Congress under the Constitution to regulate commerce among the several States which will provide a practicable means for preserving rail service, thus benefiting shippers, employees, and the economies of the States in which such carriers subject to liquidation have operated service, and for facilitating interstate commerce, while at the same time providing safeguards to protect the interest of the estates of such carriers by requiring compensation which is not less than the constitutionally required minimum; and

"(3) it is in the public interest that the Interstate Commerce Commission's authority to issue orders involving temporary authority to operate service over lines of carriers subject to liquidation be clarified."

[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 702 of Title 49, Transportation, and section 101 of Pub. L. 104-88, set out as a note under section 701 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 701 of Title 49.]

§ 902. Definitions

As used in this chapter—

(1) the term "bankruptcy court" means the court having jurisdiction over the reorganization of the Milwaukee Railroad;

(2) the term "Board" means the Railroad Retirement Board;

(3) the term "Commission" means the Interstate Commerce Commission;

(4) the term "employee"—

(A) includes any employee of the Milwaukee Railroad who worked on a line of such railroad the sale of which became effective on October 1, 1979; but

(B) does not include any individual serving as president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, comptroller, counsel, member of the board of directors, or any other person performing such functions;

(5) the term "Milwaukee Railroad" means the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company; and

(6) the term "restructured Milwaukee Railroad" means the entity that is designated as the reorganized railroad under the reorganization plan for the Milwaukee Railroad finally certified by the Commission.

(Pub. L. 96-101, § 3, Nov. 4, 1979, 93 Stat. 736; Pub. L. 96-254, title I, § 123, May 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 409.)

AMENDMENTS

1980—Par. (6). Pub. L. 96-254 redefined "restructured Milwaukee Railroad" to mean the entity that is designated as the reorganized railroad under the reorganization plan for the Milwaukee Railroad finally certified by the Commission.

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 702 of Title 49, Transportation, and section 101 of Pub. L. 104-88, set out as a note under section 701 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 701 of Title 49.

§ 903. Sales and transfers

(a) The Milwaukee Railroad may negotiate and enter into agreements to sell, to another rail carrier or any other person, all or any portion of its rail properties used in railroad operations as of October 15, 1979. Such sale agreements may in no event become final and effective until the occurrence of an event described in section 920(b) of this title, or April 1, 1980, whichever first occurs. In taking action under this subsection, the Milwaukee Railroad may consult with the Secretary of Transportation.

(b)(1) The Secretary of Transportation, under the authority of section 333 of title 49, may develop plans, participate in negotiations, and recommend to the trustee proposals for the sale or transfer of any rail properties of the Milwaukee Railroad which are used in rail operations as of October 15, 1979. In taking action under this paragraph, the Secretary shall give preference to financially responsible persons, including governmental entities, negotiating for the purchase of any lines with the intent of providing common carrier service.

(2) Any sale or transfer proposal developed under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be submitted to the bankruptcy court. Such a proposal may in no event become final or effective until the occurrence of an event described in section 920(b) of this title, or April 1, 1980, whichever first occurs.

(Pub. L. 96-101, § 4, Nov. 4, 1979, 93 Stat. 737.)

CODIFICATION

In subsec. (b)(1), "section 333 of title 49" was substituted for "section 5(a)-(e) of the Department of Transportation Act [49 U.S.C. 1654(a)-(e)]", on authority of Pub. L. 97-449, § 6(b), Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2443, the first section of which enacted subtitle I (§ 101 et seq.) and chapter 31 (§ 3101 et seq.) of subtitle II of Title 49, Transportation.

§ 904. Court approved abandonments and sales

(a) Abandonment of lines of railroad under section 1170 of title 11

(1) Upon the occurrence of an event described in section 920(b) of this title, or on April 1, 1980, whichever first occurs, the bankruptcy court may authorize the abandonment of lines of the Milwaukee Railroad pursuant to section 1170 of title 11. Pending the expiration of the time for appeal of an abandonment order or the determination of any such appeal, the bankruptcy court may authorize the termination of service on a line to be abandoned, and the order authorizing such termination may not be stayed. In authorizing any abandonment pursuant to this sec-