

CHAPTER 55 -- INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION

SUBCHAPTER I -- GENERAL

Sec.

- 5501. National Intermodal Transportation System policy.
- 5502. Intermodal Transportation Advisory Board.
- 5503. Office of Intermodalism.
- 5504. Model intermodal transportation plans.

SUBCHAPTER II -- TERMINALS

- 5561. Definition.
- 5562. Assistance projects.
- 5563. Conversion of certain rail passenger terminals.
- 5564. Interim preservation of certain rail passenger terminals.
- 5565. Encouraging the development of plans for converting certain rail passenger terminals.
- 5566. Records and audits.
- 5567. Preference for preserving buildings of historic or architectural significance.
- 5568. Authorization of appropriations.

SUBCHAPTER I -- GENERAL

Sec. 5501. National Intermodal Transportation System policy  
(a) General. -- It is the policy of the United States Government to develop a National Intermodal Transportation System that is economically efficient and environmentally sound, provides the foundation for the United States to compete in the global economy, and will move individuals and property in an energy efficient way.

(b) System Characteristics. -- (1) The National Intermodal Transportation System shall consist of all forms of transportation in a unified, interconnected manner, including the transportation systems of the future, to reduce energy consumption and air pollution while promoting economic development and supporting the United States' preeminent position in international commerce.

(2) The National Intermodal Transportation System shall include a National Highway System consisting of the Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways and those principal arterial roads that are essential for interstate and regional commerce and travel, national defense, intermodal transfer facilities, and international commerce and border crossings.

(3) The National Intermodal Transportation System shall include significant improvements in public transportation necessary to achieve national goals for improved air quality, energy conservation, international competitiveness, and mobility for elderly individuals, individuals with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged individuals in urban and rural areas of the United States.

(4) The National Intermodal Transportation System shall provide improved access to ports and airports, the Nation's link to commerce.

(5) The National Intermodal Transportation System shall

give special emphasis to the contributions of the transportation sectors to increased productivity growth. Social benefits must be considered with particular attention to the external benefits of reduced air pollution, reduced traffic congestion, and other aspects of the quality of life in the United States.

(6) The National Intermodal Transportation System must be operated and maintained with insistent attention to the concepts of innovation, competition, energy efficiency, productivity, growth, and accountability. Practices that resulted in the lengthy and overly costly construction of the Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways must be confronted and stopped.

(7) The National Intermodal Transportation System shall be adapted to "intelligent vehicles", "magnetic levitation systems", and other new technologies, wherever feasible and economical, with benefit cost estimates given special emphasis on safety considerations and techniques for cost allocation.

(8) When appropriate, the National Intermodal Transportation System will be financed, as regards Government apportionments and reimbursements, by the Highway Trust Fund. Financial assistance will be provided to State and local governments and their instrumentalities to help carry out national goals related to mobility for elderly individuals, individuals with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged individuals.

(9) The National Intermodal Transportation System must be the centerpiece of a national investment commitment to create the new wealth of the United States for the 21st century.

(c) Distribution and Posting. -- The Secretary of Transportation shall distribute copies of the policy in subsections (a) and (b) of this section to each employee of the Department of Transportation and ensure that the policy is posted in all offices of the Department.

#### Sec. 5502. Intermodal Transportation Advisory Board

(a) Organization. -- The Intermodal Transportation Advisory Board is a board in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation.

(b) Membership. -- The Board consists of the Secretary, who serves as chairman, and the Administrator, or the Administrator's designee, of --

- (1) the Federal Highway Administration;
- (2) the Federal Aviation Administration;
- (3) the Maritime Administration;
- (4) the Federal Railroad Administration; and
- (5) the Federal Transit Administration.

(c) Duties and Powers. -- The Board shall provide recommendations for carrying out the duties of the Secretary described in section 301(3) of this title.

#### Sec. 5503. Office of Intermodalism

(a) Establishment. -- The Secretary of Transportation shall establish in the Office of the Secretary an Office of Intermodalism.

(b) Director. -- The head of the Office is a Director who shall be appointed by the Secretary.

(c) Duties and Powers. -- The Director shall carry out the

duties of the Secretary described in section 301(3) of this title.

(d) Intermodal Transportation Data Base. -- (1) The Director shall develop, maintain, and disseminate intermodal transportation data through the Bureau of Transportation Statistics. The Director shall coordinate the collection of data for the data base with the States and metropolitan planning organizations. The data base shall include information on --

(A) the volume of property and number of individuals carried in intermodal transportation by relevant classification;

(B) patterns of movement of property and individuals in intermodal transportation by relevant classification by origin and destination; and

(C) public and private investment in intermodal transportation facilities and services.

(2) The Director shall make information from the data base available to the public.

(e) Research. -- The Director shall --

(1) coordinate United States Government research on intermodal transportation as provided in the plan developed under section 6009(b) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (Public Law 102-240, 105 Stat. 2177); and

(2) carry out additional research needs identified by the Director.

(f) Technical Assistance. -- The Director shall provide technical assistance to States and to metropolitan planning organizations for urban areas having a population of at least 1,000,000 in collecting data related to intermodal transportation to facilitate the collection of the data by States and metropolitan planning organizations.

(g) Administrative and Clerical Support. -- The Director shall provide administrative and clerical support to the Intermodal Transportation Advisory Board.

#### Sec. 5504. Model intermodal transportation plans

(a) Grants. -- The Secretary of Transportation shall make grants to States to develop model State intermodal transportation plans that are consistent with the policy set forth in section 302(e) of this title. The model plans shall include systems for collecting data related to intermodal transportation.

(b) Distribution. -- The Secretary shall award grants to States under this section that represent a variety of geographic regions and transportation needs, patterns, and modes.

(c) Plan Submission. -- As a condition to a State receiving a grant under this section, the Secretary shall require that the State provide assurances that the State will submit to the Secretary a State intermodal transportation plan not later than 18 months after the date of receipt of the grant.

(d) Grant Amounts. -- The Secretary shall reserve, from amounts deducted under section 104(a) of title 23, \$3,000,000 to make grants under this section. The total amount that a State may receive in grants under this section may not be more than \$500,000.

Sec. 5561. Definition

In this chapter, "civic and cultural activities" includes libraries, musical and dramatic presentations, art exhibits, adult education programs, public meeting places, and other facilities for carrying on an activity any part of which is supported under a law of the United States.

Sec. 5562. Assistance projects

(a) Requirements To Provide Assistance. -- The Secretary of Transportation shall provide financial, technical, and advisory assistance under this chapter to --

(1) promote, on a feasibility demonstration basis, the conversion of at least 3 rail passenger terminals into intermodal transportation terminals;

(2) preserve rail passenger terminals that reasonably are likely to be converted or maintained pending preparation of plans for their reuse;

(3) acquire and use space in suitable buildings of historic or architectural significance but only if use of the space is feasible and prudent when compared to available alternatives; and

(4) encourage State and local governments, local and regional transportation authorities, common carriers, philanthropic organizations, and other responsible persons to develop plans to convert rail passenger terminals into intermodal transportation terminals and civic and cultural activity centers.

(b) Effect on Eligibility. -- This chapter does not affect the eligibility of any rail passenger terminal for preservation or reuse assistance under another program or law.

(c) Acquiring Space. -- The Secretary may acquire space under subsection (a)(3) of this section only after consulting with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Sec. 5563. Conversion of certain rail passenger terminals

(a) Authority To Provide Assistance. -- The Secretary of Transportation may provide financial assistance to convert a rail passenger terminal to an intermodal transportation terminal under section 5562(a)(1) of this title only if --

(1) the terminal can be converted to accommodate other modes of transportation the Secretary of Transportation decides are appropriate, including --

(A) motorbus transportation;

(B) mass transit (rail or rubber tire); and

(C) airline ticket offices and passenger terminals providing direct transportation to area airports;

(2) the terminal is listed on the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior;

(3) the architectural integrity of the terminal will be preserved;

(4) to the extent practicable, the use of the terminal facilities for transportation may be combined with use of those facilities for other civic and cultural activities, especially when another activity is recommended by --

(A) the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation;

(B) the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts; or

(C) consultants retained under subsection (b) of this section; and

(5) the terminal and the conversion project meet other criteria prescribed by the Secretary of Transportation after consultation with the Council and Chairman.

(b) Architectural Integrity. -- The Secretary of Transportation must employ consultants on whether the architectural integrity of the rail passenger terminal will be preserved under subsection (a)(3) of this section. The Secretary may decide that the architectural integrity will be preserved only if the consultants concur. The Council and Chairman shall recommend consultants to be employed by the Secretary. The consultants also may make recommendations referred to in subsection (a)(4) of this section.

(c) Government's Share of Costs. -- The Secretary of Transportation may not make a grant under this section for more than 80 percent of the total cost of converting a rail passenger terminal into an intermodal transportation terminal.

Sec. 5564. Interim preservation of certain rail passenger terminals

(a) General Grant Authority. -- Subject to subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary of Transportation may make a grant of financial assistance to a responsible person (including a governmental authority) to preserve a rail passenger terminal under section 5562(a)(2) of this title. To receive assistance under this section, the person must be qualified, prepared, committed, and authorized by law to maintain (and prevent the demolition, dismantling, or further deterioration of) the terminal until plans for its reuse are prepared.

(b) Grant Requirements. -- The Secretary of Transportation may make a grant of financial assistance under this section only if --

(1) the Secretary decides the rail passenger terminal has a reasonable likelihood of being converted to, or conditioned for reuse as, an intermodal transportation terminal, a civic or cultural activities center, or both; and

(2) planning activity directed toward conversion or reuse has begun and is proceeding in a competent way.

(c) Maximizing Preservation of Terminals. -- (1) Amounts appropriated to carry out this section and section 5562(a)(2) of this title shall be expended in the way most likely to maximize the preservation of rail passenger terminals that are --

(A) reasonably capable of conversion to intermodal transportation terminals;

(B) listed in the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior; or

(C) recommended (on the basis of architectural integrity and quality) by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation or the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts.

(2) The Secretary of Transportation may not make a grant under this section for more than 80 percent of the total cost of maintaining the terminal for an interim period of not more than 5

years.

Sec. 5565. Encouraging the development of plans for converting rail passenger terminals

(a) General Grant Authority. -- The Secretary of Transportation may make a grant of financial assistance to a qualified person (including a governmental authority) to encourage the development of plans for converting a rail passenger terminal under section 5562(a)(4) of this title. To receive assistance under this section, the person must --

(1) be prepared to develop practicable plans that meet zoning, land use, and other requirements of the applicable State and local jurisdictions in which the terminal is located;

(2) incorporate into the designs and plans proposed for converting the terminal, features that reasonably appear likely to attract private investors willing to carry out the planned conversion and its subsequent maintenance and operation; and

(3) complete the designs and plans for the conversion within the period of time prescribed by the Secretary.

(b) Preference. -- In making a grant under this section, the Secretary of Transportation shall give preferential consideration to an applicant whose completed designs and plans will be carried out within 3 years after their completion.

(c) Maximizing Conversion and Continued Public Use. -- (1) Amounts appropriated to carry out this section and section 5562(a)(4) of this title shall be expended in the way most likely to maximize the conversion and continued public use of rail passenger terminals that are --

(A) listed in the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior; or

(B) recommended (on the basis of architectural integrity and quality) by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation or the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts.

(2) The Secretary of Transportation may not make a grant under this section for more than 80 percent of the total cost of the project for which the financial assistance is provided.

Sec. 5566. Records and audits

(a) Record Requirements. -- Each recipient of financial assistance under this chapter shall keep records required by the Secretary of Transportation. The records shall disclose --

(1) the amount, and disposition by the recipient, of the proceeds of the assistance;

(2) the total cost of the project for which the assistance was given or used;

(3) the amount of that part of the cost of the project supplied by other sources; and

(4) any other records that will make an effective audit easier.

(b) Audits and Inspections. -- For 3 years after a project is completed, the Secretary and the Comptroller General may audit and inspect records of a recipient that the Secretary or Comptroller General decides may be related or pertinent to the financial assistance.

Sec. 5567. Preference for preserving buildings of historic or architectural significance Amtrak shall give preference to the use of rail passenger terminal facilities that will preserve buildings of historic or architectural significance.

Sec. 5568. Authorization of appropriations

(a) General. -- The following amounts may be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation:

(1) not more than \$15,000,000 to carry out section 5562(a)(1) and (3) of this title.

(2) not more than \$2,500,000 to carry out section 5562(a)(2) of this title.

(3) not more than \$2,500,000 to carry out section 5562(a)(4) of this title.

(b) Availability of Amounts. -- Amounts appropriated to carry out this chapter remain available until expended.