

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8615

To amend title 49, United States Code, to limit the preference for Amtrak using rail lines, junctions, and crossings near ports and rail yards, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 29, 2022

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to limit the preference for Amtrak using rail lines, junctions, and crossings near ports and rail yards, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. LIMITATION OF PREFERENCE FOR AMTRAK.**

4 Section 24308(c) of title 49, United States Code, is
5 amended—

6 (1) by striking “Except in an emergency” and
7 inserting the following:

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
2 graph (2) or paragraph (3) or in an emergency”;
3 and

4 (2) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(2) LIMITATION OF PREFERENCE.—Beginning
6 on the date of enactment of this paragraph and end-
7 ing on the date that is 5 years after such date, inter-
8 city and commuter rail passenger transportation
9 provided by or for Amtrak shall not have preference
10 over freight transportation in using a rail line, junc-
11 tion, or crossing if such rail line, junction, or cross-
12 ing is located within 50 miles of a port or rail yard.

13 “(3) WAIVER BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary
14 may issue such regulations as are necessary to con-
15 tinue the preference waiver described in paragraph
16 (2).”.

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