

in such facilities so that, when viewed in the entirety, the program or activity is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.

**(2) Exception**

Paragraph (1) shall not require a public entity to make structural changes to existing facilities in order to make such facilities accessible to individuals who use wheelchairs, unless and to the extent required by section 12147(a) of this title (relating to alterations) or section 12147(b) of this title (relating to key stations).

**(3) Utilization**

Paragraph (1) shall not require a public entity to which paragraph (2) applies, to provide to individuals who use wheelchairs services made available to the general public at such facilities when such individuals could not utilize or benefit from such services provided at such facilities.

**(b) One car per train rule**

**(1) General rule**

Subject to paragraph (2), with respect to 2 or more vehicles operated as a train by a light or rapid rail system, for purposes of section 12132 of this title and section 794 of title 29, it shall be considered discrimination for a public entity to fail to have at least 1 vehicle per train that is accessible to individuals with disabilities, including individuals who use wheelchairs, as soon as practicable but in no event later than the last day of the 5-year period beginning on the effective date of this section.

**(2) Historic trains**

In order to comply with paragraph (1) with respect to the remanufacture of a vehicle of historic character which is to be used on a segment of a light or rapid rail system which is included on the National Register of Historic Places, if making such vehicle readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities would significantly alter the historic character of such vehicle, the public entity which operates such system only has to make (or to purchase or lease a remanufactured vehicle with) those modifications which are necessary to meet the requirements of section 12142(c)(1) of this title and which do not significantly alter the historic character of such vehicle.

(Pub. L. 101-336, title II, §228, July 26, 1990, 104 Stat. 344.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The effective date of this section, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), probably means the effective date of subsec. (b), which is effective on date of enactment of Pub. L. 101-336, which was approved July 26, 1990. The effective date of subsec. (a) is 18 months after July 26, 1990. See section 231 of Pub. L. 101-336, set out as an Effective Date note under section 12141 of this title.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Subsec. (a) of this section effective 18 months after July 26, 1990, and subsec. (b) of this section effective

July 26, 1990, see section 231 of Pub. L. 101-336, set out as a note under section 12141 of this title.

**§ 12149. Regulations**

**(a) In general**

Not later than 1 year after July 26, 1990, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue regulations, in an accessible format, necessary for carrying out this subpart (other than section 12143 of this title).

**(b) Standards**

The regulations issued under this section and section 12143 of this title shall include standards applicable to facilities and vehicles covered by this part. The standards shall be consistent with the minimum guidelines and requirements issued by the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board in accordance with section 12204 of this title.

(Pub. L. 101-336, title II, §229, July 26, 1990, 104 Stat. 345.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective July 26, 1990, see section 231(b) of Pub. L. 101-336, set out as a note under section 12141 of this title.

**§ 12150. Interim accessibility requirements**

If final regulations have not been issued pursuant to section 12149 of this title, for new construction or alterations for which a valid and appropriate State or local building permit is obtained prior to the issuance of final regulations under such section, and for which the construction or alteration authorized by such permit begins within one year of the receipt of such permit and is completed under the terms of such permit, compliance with the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards in effect at the time the building permit is issued shall suffice to satisfy the requirement that facilities be readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities as required under sections 12146 and 12147 of this title, except that, if such final regulations have not been issued one year after the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board has issued the supplemental minimum guidelines required under section 12204(a) of this title, compliance with such supplemental minimum guidelines shall be necessary to satisfy the requirement that facilities be readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities prior to issuance of the final regulations.

(Pub. L. 101-336, title II, §230, July 26, 1990, 104 Stat. 345.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 18 months after July 26, 1990, see section 231(a) of Pub. L. 101-336, set out as a note under section 12141 of this title.

SUBPART II—PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION BY  
INTERCITY AND COMMUTER RAIL

**§ 12161. Definitions**

As used in this subpart: