This is an unofficial transcription of a 1948 excerpt amending the 1898 Act, prepared by Robert J. Pfister for ease of reading and copying/pasting. The authoritative text is the United States Statutes at Large.

Eightieth Congress, Session II
Chapter 180 — 62 Stat. 162 — Public Law 478 (H.R. 2298)
April 9, 1948

AN ACT *To amend the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended, and for other purposes.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it is hereby declared to be in aid of the national transportation policy of the Congress, as set forth in the preamble of the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended, in order to promote the public interest in avoiding the deterioration of service and the interruption of employment which inevitably attend the threat of financial difficulties and which follow upon financial collapse and in order to promote the public interest in increased stability of values of railroad securities with resulting greater confidence therein of investors, to assure, insofar as possible, continuity of sound financial condition of common carriers subject to part I of said Act, to enhance the marketability of railroad securities impaired by large and continuing accumulations of interest on income bonds and dividends on preferred stock and to enable said common carriers, insofar as possible, to avoid prospective financial difficulties,

[62 Stat. 163–166 omitted (4 pages)]

section, and said certificates of deposit and transactions therein shall, for the purposes of said Securities Act, be deemed to be added to those exempted by sections 3 and 4, respectively, of said Securities Act.

"(12) The provisions of sections 1801, 1802, 3481, and 3482 of the Internal Revenue Code and any amendments thereto, unless specifically providing to the contrary, shall not apply to the issuance, transfer, or exchange of securities or the making or delivery

of conveyances to make effective any alteration or modification effected pursuant to this section.

"(13) The Commission shall not approve an application filed under this section by any carrier while in equity receivership or in process of reorganization under section 77 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended, except that the Commission may approve an application filed by a carrier which, on the date of enactment of this Act, is in equity receivership and with respect to which no order confirming the sale of the carrier's property has been entered, or is in process of reorganization under section 77 and with respect to which no order confirming a plan shall have been entered, or, such an order having been entered, if an appeal from said order is pending on said date in a circuit court of appeals or the matter is pending in the Supreme Court on a petition to review any order of a circuit court of appeals dealing with said order of confirmation or the time within which to make such appeal or to file such petition has not expired, if prior to the filing of such application with the Commission such carrier shall have applied for and been granted permission to file such application by the district judge before whom the equity receivership or section 77 proceeding is pending. Any such carrier applying for permission to file such application shall file with the court as a prerequisite to the granting of such permission (1) a copy of the proposed application, (2) a copy of the proposed plan of alteration or modification of its securities, and (3) assurances satisfactory to the court of the acceptance of such plan from holders of at least 25 per centum of the aggregate amount of all securities, including not less than 25 per centum of the aggregate amount of all creditors' claims, affected by such plan. An order of a district judge granting or withholding such permission shall be final and shall not be subject to review. Upon granting of such permission, such proceeding, so far as it relates to a plan of reorganization, shall be suspended until the Commission shall have notified the court that (a) the application filed by such carrier under this section has been dismissed or denied by the Commission or withdrawn, (b) the

Commission has approved and authorized an alteration or modification under this section with respect to the securities of such carrier, or (c) twelve months have elapsed since the filing of such application and no such alteration or modification has been approved and authorized by the Commission. Upon receipt by the court of notification that such application has been dismissed or denied or withdrawn or that twelve months have elapsed and no alteration or modification has been approved and authorized, the equity receivership or section 77 proceeding shall be resumed as though permission to file application under this section had not been granted. Upon receipt by the court of notification that the Commission has authorized and approved such alteration or modification of the carrier's securities under this section as, in the judgment of the court, makes further receivership or section 77 proceeding unnecessary, the court shall enter an order restoring custody of the property to the debtor, and making such other provision as may be necessary to terminate the equity receivership or section 77 proceeding."

SEC. 3. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) with respect to any plan of reorganization or modified plan of reorganization approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission under the provisions of section 77 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended, subsequent to the effective date of this Act, it shall be the duty of the Commission, upon petition of any party to the proceeding filed at any time more than eighteen months after certification by the Commission to the court of the plan or of an order disposing of a like petition, but before any order confirming the plan shall have been entered, or, such an order having been entered, if an appeal from said order is pending on said date in a circuit court of appeals or the matter is pending in the Supreme Court on a petition to review any order of a circuit court of appeals dealing with said order of confirmation or the time within which to make such appeal or to file such petition has not expired, to report to the court in

which consideration of such plan is then pending, any changes, facts, or developments which have occurred since the approval of such plan by the Commission, which were not provided for in the plan, and which in the opinion of the Commission make it necessary or expedient for the Commission to reexamine or reconsider and, if necessary, to revise such plan in order to insure that such plan, if consummated and put into effect, shall then, in the opinion of the Commission, be fair and equitable and in the public interest and compatible with the provisions of this section and section 77 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended. Upon the filing of any such report by the Commission with the court, the court shall remand the plan to the Commission for such reexamination, reconsideration, and possible revision;

(2) if, with respect to any plan of reorganization or modified plan of reorganization approved by the Commission subsequent to the effective date of this Act, the court before which such plan is then pending, for approval or confirmation, no order of confirmation having been entered, or, such an order having been entered, if an appeal from said order is pending on said date in a circuit court of appeals or the matter is pending in the Supreme Court on a petition to review any order of a circuit court of appeals dealing with said order of confirmation or the time within which to make such appeal or to file such petition has not expired, upon petition of any party to the proceeding and either with or without a hearing, shall find that changes, facts, or developments have occurred since the approval of such plan by the Commission which were not provided for in the plan and which make it necessary or expedient, in the opinion of the court, that the Commission reexamine and reconsider and revise such plan in order to insure that the plan consummated and put into effect shall then, in the opinion of the court and the Commission, be fair and equitable and in the public interest and compatible with the provisions of this section, and section 77 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended, the court shall return the plan to the Commission for such reexamination, reconsideration and possible revision;

(3) with respect to any plan of reorganization or modified plan of reorganization which, on the date of enactment of this Act, is before any district court for approval or confirmation, no order of confirmation having been entered, or, such order having been entered, if an appeal from said order is pending in a circuit court of appeals or the matter is pending in the Supreme Court on a petition to review any order of a circuit court of appeals dealing with said order of confirmation or the time within which to make such an appeal or to file such petition has not expired, it shall be the duty of the Commission, upon petition of any party to the proceeding, to report to such court any changes, facts, or developments which have occurred since December 31, 1939, which were not provided for in the plan and which, in the opinion of the Commission, make it necessary or expedient for the Commission to reexamine or reconsider and, if necessary, to revise such plan in order to insure that if consummated and put into effect, such plan shall then, in the opinion of the Commission, be fair and equitable and in the public interest and compatible with the provisions of this section and section 77 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended. Upon the filing of any such report by the Commission with the court, the court shall remand the plan to the Commission for such reexamination, reconsideration, and possible revision;

(4) in the event of the return of a plan to the Commission pursuant to the provisions of this subsection (a), the proceedings with respect thereto shall be governed by the provisions of subsection (d) of section 77 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended;

(5) each petition filed under the provisions of paragraph (1) or paragraph (3) of this subsection (a) shall be filed with the court before which is pending the plan which is the subject of the petition and such petition shall be referred by the court to the Commission. Upon the filing of such petition with the court all further proceedings

for confirmation of the plan shall be suspended pending disposition of the petition by the Commission and certification of its action thereon to the court.

(b) As to any plan so returned to the Commission by the court, the Commission, upon further hearing at which all parties may appear and submit evidence as to prospective earning power and other relevant facts, and upon consideration of all changes, facts, and developments which have occurred since the date of approval of the plan by the Commission (or which have occurred since December 31, 1939, in the case of plans which on the date of enactment of this Act were pending before, but had not been confirmed by, the court by order which shall have become final), including, without limitation, for such period total railway operating revenues, operating expenses and other charges, net earnings, the full effect of amortization deductions on earnings of past and future years, improvements to property, the effect of released collateral through past or future payments of loans, cash and net current assets, retirements and purchases of debt, including retirements and purchases at a discount that have been made or that can reasonably be made, adjustment and reduction of interest rates on outstanding debt that may be made, shall, in a supplemental report and order, modify, or refuse to modify, any plan which it has approved, stating the reasons for such modification or for its refusal to modify the plan. The Commission, if it modifies the plan, shall certify the modified plan to the court, together with a transcript of the proceeding before it and a copy of its report and order approving the modified plan. Thereafter proceedings upon the plan shall be governed by the provisions of subsection (e) of section 77 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended, and of this section. If the Commission refuses to modify the plan, it shall transmit to the court a copy of its report and order, together with a transcript of the proceedings before it. Thereafter, if the court shall find that the refusal of the Commission to modify the plan is based on sufficient findings and is supported by the record, the proceeding upon the plan shall continue as if the plan had not been

returned to the Commission; otherwise the court shall return the plan to the Commission for further consideration. Upon such consideration, the Commission shall again certify the plan to the court with such modifications, if any, as it may find necessary, and thereafter further proceedings upon the plan shall be as provided in said subsection (e) and in this section.

SEC. 4. If any provision of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid, the remainder of this Act, and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

APPROVED April 9, 1948.