
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1493 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY PETRARCA, KOTIK, COHEN, GERGELY, D. COSTA,
YOUNGBLOOD, HARHAI, DeLUCA, ROZZI, THOMAS AND BARRAR,
FEBRUARY 2, 2016

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 2, 2016

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further
3 providing for definitions; and, in railroads, providing for
4 operating railroad locomotives in reverse and imposing
5 penalties.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Section 102 of Title 66 of the Pennsylvania
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a definition to read:

10 § 102. Definitions.

11 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent
12 provisions of this part which are applicable to specific
13 provisions of this part, the following words and phrases when
14 used in this part shall have, unless the context clearly
15 indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

16 * * *

17 "Class I railroad." As classified under 49 CFR Pt. 1201
18 (relating to railroad companies).

19 * * *

1 Section 2. Title 66 is amended by adding a section to read:
2 § 2710. Operating railroad locomotives in reverse.

3 (a) General rule.--No Class I railroad operating in this
4 Commonwealth may operate a railroad locomotive in reverse or
5 backup position on any main line or secondary line unless one of
6 the following applies:

7 (1) When an emergency exists.

8 (2) While performing switching operations.

9 (3) Where the railroad locomotive is engaged in the
10 transportation of passengers.

11 (b) Penalty.--Any railroad that violates this section shall
12 be subject to a fine of \$1,000 for each violation.

13 (c) Regulation.--The commission shall promulgate the rules
14 and regulations necessary for the implementation of this
15 section.

16 (d) Enforcement.--The commission shall enforce this section
17 and may issue orders as may be proper to require compliance with
18 this section.

19 (e) Definitions.--As used in this section, the phrase
20 "operate a railroad locomotive in reverse or backup position"
21 means to operate a railroad locomotive such that the smokestack
22 or diesel vent is in front of the operator when the operator
23 faces the track ahead.

24 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.