

HR 2192

Surface Transportation Board Reform Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: May 21, 2003

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads. (May 22, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/2192>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Oberstar, James L. [D-MN-8]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Andrews, Robert E. [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		Jan 20, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	May 22, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 S 1389	Related bill	Aug 26, 2003: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 253.

Summary (as of May 21, 2003)

Surface Transportation Board Reform Act of 2003 - Declares as primary objectives for U.S. rail transportation policy: (1) ensuring effective competition among rail carriers at origin and destination; (2) maintaining reasonable rates in the absence of such competition; (3) maintaining consistent and efficient rail transportation service to shippers, including the timely provision of railcars requested by them; and (4) ensuring that smaller carload and intermodal shippers are not precluded from assessing rail systems due to volume requirements.

Requires a rail carrier, upon a shipper's request, to establish a rail transportation rate. Requires the Surface Transportation Board, if a shipper challenges the reasonableness of such a rate, to then determine its reasonableness without regard to specified factors.

Sets forth certain requirements with respect to: (1) acceptance of requests for grain service by rail carriers; and (2) the Board's mandate to require terminal facilities owned by a rail carrier providing rail transportation to be used by another rail carrier.

Requires the Board in a proceeding involving the approval of the merger or control of at least two Class I railroads to consider, among other things, at least the: (1) safety and environmental effects of the proposed transaction; and (2) the effect of such transaction on rail passenger transportation.

Sets forth certain requirements with respect to: (1) the Board ensuring that commuter authorities are able to provide commuter rail passenger transportation that meets the commuter rail passenger transportation needs of the United States; and (2) water carriers making their tariffs containing the rates established for their transportation or service available electronically to any person.

Actions Timeline

- **May 22, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads.
- **May 21, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **May 21, 2003:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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