

Public Law 99-431
99th Congress

Joint Resolution

To provide for a settlement to the Maine Central Railroad Company and Portland Terminal Company labor-management dispute.

Sept. 30, 1986
[S.J. Res. 415]

Whereas the labor dispute between the common rail carriers, Maine Central Railroad Company and Portland Terminal Company, and certain of the employees of such carriers represented by the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees threatens essential transportation services of the Nation;

Whereas it is essential to the national interest, including the national health and defense, that essential transportation services be maintained;

Whereas the Congress finds that emergency measures are essential to security and continuity of transportation services by such carriers;

Whereas the President by Executive Order Numbered 12557 of May 16, 1986, pursuant to the provisions of section 10 of the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 160), created a Presidential Emergency Board to investigate the dispute and report findings;

3 CFR, 1986
Comp., p. 215.

Whereas the recommendations of Presidential Emergency Board Numbered 209 for settlement of such dispute have not yet resulted in a settlement;

Whereas the extension of the provisions of section 10 of the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 160) for an additional 60-day period to such dispute provided by the joint resolution entitled: "Joint resolution to provide for a temporary prohibition of strikes or lockouts with respect to the Maine Central Railroad Company and the Portland Terminal Company labor-management dispute", approved August 21, 1986 (Public Law 99-385), has not yet resulted in a settlement of such dispute;

Ante, p. 819.

Whereas the advisory board established pursuant to section 2 of such joint resolution recommended that in the event that the parties to the dispute were unable to reach agreement on the dispute before September 13, 1986, the Congress should enact legislation directing the parties to accept and apply the recommendations of Emergency Board Numbered 209, and if such parties are unable to agree as to all necessary details in applying the recommendations of such Emergency Board, all such unsettled issues should be submitted to final and binding arbitration;

Whereas all the procedures for resolving such dispute provided for in the Railway Labor Act have been exhausted and have not yet resulted in settlement of the dispute;

45 USC 151 note.

Whereas the Congress, under the Commerce Clause of the Constitution, has the authority and responsibility to ensure the uninterrupted operation of essential transportation services; and

Whereas the Congress in the past has enacted legislation for such purposes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following

3 CFR, 1986
Comp., p. 215.

conditions shall apply to the dispute referred to in Executive Order Numbered 12557 of May 16, 1986, between the common rail carriers, Maine Central Railroad Company and Portland Terminal Company (hereafter in this resolution referred to as the "carriers") and the employees of such carriers represented by the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees.

(1) The parties to such dispute shall take all necessary steps to restore or preserve the conditions out of which such dispute arose as such conditions existed before 12:01 ante meridiem of March 3, 1986, except as provided in paragraphs (2) through (4).

(2) The report and recommendations of Presidential Emergency Board Numbered 209 shall be binding on the parties and shall have the same effect as though arrived at by agreement of the parties under the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 151 et seq.), except that nothing in this joint resolution shall prevent a mutual written agreement by the parties to any terms and conditions different from those established by this joint resolution.

(3)(A) If there are unresolved implementing issues remaining with respect to the report and recommendations or agreement under paragraph (2) after ten days after the date of the enactment of this joint resolution, the parties to the dispute shall enter into binding arbitration to provide for a resolution of such issues.

(B) The National Mediation Board established by section 4 of the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 154) shall appoint an arbitrator to resolve the issues described in subparagraph (A). Except as provided in this joint resolution, such arbitration shall be conducted as if it were under section 7 of such Act, and any award of such arbitration shall be enforceable as if under section 9 of such Act.

(4) Within thirty days after the date of the enactment of this joint resolution, the binding arbitration entered into pursuant to paragraph (3) shall be completed.

Approved September 30, 1986.

45 USC 157.
45 USC 159.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 415:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 132 (1986):

Sept. 17, considered and passed Senate.

Sept. 23, considered and passed House.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 22 (1986):

Sept. 30, Presidential statement.