Public Law 957 CHAPTER 928

AN ACT

August 3, 1956
[S. 898]

To amend the Interstate Commerce Act, with respect to the authority of the Interstate Commerce Commission to regulate the use by motor carriers (under leases, contracts, or other arrangements) of motor vehicles not owned by them, in the furnishing of transportation of property.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 204 of the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended (49 U. S. C., sec. 304), is amended by adding at the end thereof the following subsection:

Motor carriers. Use of vehicles owned by others. 49 Stat. 546.

"(e) Subject to the provisions of subsection (f) hereof, the Commission is authorized to prescribe, with respect to the use by motor carriers (under leases, contracts, or other arrangements) of motor vehicles not owned by them, in the furnishing of transportation of property—

Leases, contracts, etc.

"(1) regulations requiring that any such lease, contract, or other arrangement shall be in writing and be signed by the parties thereto, shall specify the period during which it is to be in effect, and shall specify the compensation to be paid by the motor carrier, and requiring that during the entire period of any such lease, contract, or other arrangement a copy thereof shall be carried in each motor vehicle covered thereby; and

Direction and control.

"(2) such other regulations as may be reasonably necessary in order to assure that while motor vehicles are being so used the motor carriers will have full direction and control of such vehicles and will be fully responsible for the operation thereof in accordance with applicable law and regulations, as if they were the owners of such vehicles, including the requirements prescribed by or under the provisions of this part with respect to safety of operation and equipment and inspection thereof, which requirements may include but shall not be limited to promulgation of regulations requiring liability and cargo insurance covering all such equipment.

Exceptions.

"(f) Nothing in this part shall be construed to authorize the Commission to regulate the duration of any such lease, contract, or other arrangement for the use of any motor vehicle, with driver, or the amount of compensation to be paid for such use—

"(1) where the motor vehicle so to be used is that of a farmer or of a cooperative association or a federation of cooperative associations, as specified in section 203 (b) (4a) or (5), or is that of a private carrier of property by motor vehicle as defined in section 203 (a) (17) and is used regularly in the transportation of property of a character embraced within section 203 (b) (6) or perishable products manufactured from perishable property of a character embraced within section 203 (b) (6), and such motor vehicle is to be used by the motor carrier in a single movement or in one or more of a series of movements, loaded or empty, in the general direction of the general area in which such motor vehicle is based; or

49 Stat. 303.

"(2) where the motor vehicle so to be used is one which has completed a movement covered by section 203 (b) (6) and such motor vehicle is next to be used by the motor carrier in a loaded movement in any direction, and/or in one or more of a series of movements, loaded or empty, in the general direction of the general area in which such motor vehicle is based.

Approved August 3, 1956.