

shall make public any part of a transcript or any written depiction of visual information the Board decides is relevant to the accident or incident—

“(A) if the Board holds a public hearing on the accident or incident, at the time of the hearing; or

“(B) if the Board does not hold a public hearing, at the time a majority of the other factual reports on the accident or incident are placed in the public docket.”

Former par. (2) redesignated (3).

Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 115-254, § 1104(a)(1)(A), (B), redesignated par. (2) as (3) and inserted heading.

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 115-254, § 1104(a)(2)(B)(i), substituted “Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Board” for “The Board”.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 115-254, § 1104(a)(2)(B)(ii), designated second sentence of par. (1) as par. (2) and amended it generally. Prior to amendment, second sentence of par. (1) read as follows: “However, the Board shall make public any part of a transcript or any written depiction of visual information that the Board decides is relevant to the accident—

“(A) if the Board holds a public hearing on the accident, at the time of the hearing; or

“(B) if the Board does not hold a public hearing, at the time a majority of the other factual reports on the accident are placed in the public docket.”

Former par. (2) redesignated (3).

Subsec. (d)(3). Pub. L. 115-254, § 1104(a)(2)(A), redesignated par. (2) as (3).

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 115-254, § 1104(a)(3), added subsec. (g).

2000—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 106-424, §§ 3(b)(2), 5(b)(2), designated existing provisions as par. (1), substituted “(d), and (f)” for “and (e)” in first sentence, and added par. (2).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 106-424, § 5(a)(1), struck out “Voice” after “Cockpit” in heading.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 106-424, § 5(a)(2), (3), substituted “cockpit voice or video recorder” for “cockpit voice recorder” in first sentence and inserted “or any written depiction of visual information” after “transcript” in second sentence.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 106-424, § 5(a)(2), substituted “cockpit voice or video recorder” for “cockpit voice recorder”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 106-424, § 5(b)(1)(B), which directed the addition of subsec. (d) after subsec. (e), was executed by adding subsec. (d) before subsec. (e) to reflect the probable intent of Congress. Former subsec. (d) redesignated (e).

Subsecs. (e), (f). Pub. L. 106-424, § 5(b)(1)(A), redesignated subsecs. (d) and (e) as (e) and (f), respectively.

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-291, § 102(1), substituted “(b), (c), and (e)” for “(b) and (c)”.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 104-291, § 103, added par. (3).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 104-291, § 102(2), added subsec. (e).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

ELECTRONIC AVAILABILITY OF PUBLIC DOCKET RECORDS

Pub. L. 118-63, title XII, § 1217, May 16, 2024, 138 Stat. 1431, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 24 months after the date of enactment of this Act [May 16, 2024], the National Transportation Safety Board shall make all records included in the public docket of an accident or incident investigation conducted by the Board (or the public docket of a study, report, or other product issued by the Board) electronically available in a publicly accessible database on a website of the Board, regardless of the date on which such public docket or record was created.

“(b) DATABASE.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Board may utilize the multimodal accident database management system established pursuant to section 1108 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 [Pub. L. 115-254] (49 U.S.C. 1119 note) or such other publicly available database as the Board determines appropriate.

“(c) BRIEFINGS.—The Board shall provide the appropriate committees of Congress [Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives] an annual briefing on the implementation of this section until requirements of subsection (a) are fulfilled. Such briefings shall include—

“(1) the number of public dockets that have been made electronically available pursuant to this section; and

“(2) the number of public dockets that were unable to be made electronically available, including all reasons for such inavailability.

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms ‘public docket’ and ‘record’ have the same meanings given such terms in section 801.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.”

§ 1115. Training

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, “Institute” means the Transportation Safety Institute of the Department of Transportation and any successor organization of the Institute.

(b) USE OF INSTITUTE SERVICES.—The National Transportation Safety Board may use, on a reimbursable basis, the services of the Institute. The Secretary of Transportation shall make the Institute available to—

(1) the Board for safety training of employees of the Board in carrying out their duties and powers; and

(2) other safety personnel of the United States Government, State and local governments, governments of foreign countries, interstate authorities, and private organizations the Board designates in consultation with the Secretary.

(c) FEES.—(1) Training at the Institute for safety personnel (except employees of the Government) shall be provided at a reasonable fee established periodically by the Board in consultation with the Secretary. The fee shall be paid directly to the Secretary, and the Secretary shall deposit the fee in the Treasury. The amount of the fee—

(A) shall be credited to the appropriate appropriation (subject to the requirements of any annual appropriation); and

(B) is an offset against any annual reimbursement agreement between the Board and the Secretary to cover all reasonable costs of providing training under this subsection that the Secretary incurs in operating the Institute.

(2) The Board shall maintain an annual record of offsets under paragraph (1)(B) of this subsection.

(d) TRAINING OF BOARD EMPLOYEES AND OTHERS.—The Board may conduct training of its employees in those subjects necessary for the proper performance of accident investigation and in those subjects furthering the personnel and workforce development needs set forth in the strategic workforce plan of the Board as required under section 1113(h). The Board may also authorize attendance at courses given under this subsection by other government personnel, personnel of foreign governments, and personnel from industry or otherwise who have a requirement for accident investigation training. The Board may require non-Board personnel to reim-

burse some or all of the training costs, and amounts so reimbursed shall be credited to the appropriation of the Board as offsetting collections.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(d), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 750; Pub. L. 104-291, title I, §104, Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3453; Pub. L. 106-424, §3(b)(3), Nov. 1, 2000, 114 Stat. 1884; Pub. L. 118-63, title XII, §1204(b), May 16, 2024, 138 Stat. 1423.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
1115(a)	(no source).	
1115(b)	49 App.:1903(b)(10) (1st, 2d sentences).	Jan. 3, 1975, Pub. L. 93-633, §304(b)(10), 88 Stat. 2156; added July 19, 1988, Pub. L. 100-372, §4, 102 Stat. 876.
1115(c)	49 App.:1903(b)(10) (3d-last sentences).	

In subsections (b) and (c), the words “or successor organization” are omitted as unnecessary because of subsection (a) of this section.

In subsection (b), before clause (1), the words “(established for the purpose of developing courses and conducting training in safety and security for all modes of transportation)” are omitted as surplus. In clause (1), the words “carrying out their duties and powers” are substituted for “in the performance of all of their authorized functions” for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code. In clause (2), the words “of the United States Government, State and local governments, governments of foreign countries, interstate authorities, and private organizations” are substituted for “of Federal, interstate, State, local, and foreign governments and non-governmental organizations” for clarity and consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the Code.

In subsection (c)(1), before clause (A), the words “the Secretary shall deposit the fee in the Treasury” are added for clarity. In clause (B), the words “direct and indirect” are omitted as surplus. The word “administration” is omitted as being included in “operating”. The text of 49 App.:1903(b)(10) (last sentence) is omitted because 5:ch. 41 applies to the National Transportation Safety Board by its own terms.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2024—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 118-63 inserted “and in those subjects furthering the personnel and workforce development needs set forth in the strategic workforce plan of the Board as required under section 1113(h)” after “of accident investigation” in first sentence.

2000—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 106-424 substituted “of the Board” for “of the ‘National Transportation Safety Board, Salaries and Expenses’”.

1996—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 104-291 added subsec. (d).

§ 1116. Reports, studies, and retrospective reviews

(a) PERIODIC REPORTS.—The National Transportation Safety Board shall report periodically to Congress, departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States Government and State and local governmental authorities concerned with transportation safety, and other interested persons. The report shall—

(1) advocate meaningful responses to reduce the likelihood of transportation accidents similar to those investigated by the Board; and

(2) propose corrective action to make the transportation of individuals as safe and free

from risk of injury as possible, including action to minimize personal injuries that occur in transportation accidents.

(b) STUDIES, INVESTIGATIONS, AND OTHER REPORTS.—The Board also shall—

(1) carry out special studies and investigations about transportation safety, including avoiding personal injury;

(2) examine techniques and methods of accident investigation and periodically publish recommended procedures for accident investigations;

(3) prescribe requirements for persons reporting accidents and aviation incidents that—

(A) may be investigated by the Board under this chapter; or

(B) involve public aircraft (except aircraft of the armed forces and the intelligence agencies);

(4) evaluate, examine the effectiveness of, and publish the findings of the Board about the transportation safety consciousness of other departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Government and their effectiveness in preventing accidents; and

(5) evaluate the adequacy of safeguards and procedures for the transportation of hazardous material and the performance of other departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Government responsible for the safe transportation of that material.

(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—The National Transportation Safety Board shall submit a report to Congress on July 1 of each year. The report shall include—

(1) a statistical and analytical summary of the transportation accident investigations conducted and reviewed by the Board during the prior calendar year;

(2) a survey and summary of the recommendations made by the Board to reduce the likelihood of recurrence of those accidents together with the observed response to each recommendation;

(3) a list of each recommendation made by the Board to the Secretary of Transportation or the Commandant of the Coast Guard that was closed in an unacceptable status in the preceding 12 months, including—

(A) any explanation the Board received from the Secretary or Commandant; and

(B) any explanation from the Board as to why the recommendation was closed in an unacceptable status, including a discussion of why alternate means, if any, taken by the Secretary or Commandant to address the Board’s recommendation were inadequate;

(4) a detailed appraisal of the accident investigation and accident prevention activities of other departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States Government and State and local governmental authorities having responsibility for those activities under a law of the United States or a State;

(5) a description of the activities and operations of the National Transportation Safety Board Training Center during the prior calendar year;