

§ 20112. Enforcement by the Attorney General

(a) CIVIL ACTIONS.—At the request of the Secretary of Transportation, the Attorney General may bring a civil action in a district court of the United States—

(1) to enjoin a violation of, or to enforce, this part, except for section 20109 of this title, or a railroad safety regulation prescribed or order issued by the Secretary;

(2) to collect a civil penalty imposed or an amount agreed on in compromise under section 21301, 21302, or 21303 of this title; or

(3) to enforce a subpoena, request for admissions, request for production of documents or other tangible things, or request for testimony by deposition issued by the Secretary under this part.

(b) VENUE.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a civil action under this section may be brought in the judicial district in which the violation occurred or the defendant has its principal executive office. If an action to collect a penalty is against an individual, the action also may be brought in the judicial district in which the individual resides.

(2) A civil action to enforce a subpoena issued by the Secretary or a compliance order issued under section 20111(b) of this title may be brought in the judicial district in which the defendant resides, does business, or is found.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 869; Pub. L. 110–432, div. A, title III, §309, Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4882.)

mean that the Secretary’s request is to the Attorney General rather than to the district court. See H.R. Rept. No. 91–1194, 91st Cong., 2d Sess., p. 20 (1970). The words “the Attorney General may bring a civil action in a district court of the United States” are substituted for “such district court shall have jurisdiction, upon petition by the Attorney General” in 45:437(a) (last sentence), “The district courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction, upon petition by the Attorney General” in 45:437(d)(2), and “The United States district court shall . . . upon petition by the Attorney General on behalf of the United States . . . have jurisdiction” in 45:439(a) for clarity and consistency. It is not necessary to restate that the district court has jurisdiction because of 28:1331 and 1345. See also the statement of Senator Prouty in 115 Cong. Rec. 40205 (1969) explaining that similar language in section 110 of S. 1933, 91st Cong., 1st Sess. (the derivative source for 45:439) would grant the Attorney General the power to seek injunctions. Clauses (1)–(3) are substituted for the source provisions to eliminate unnecessary words. In clause (1), the words “subject to the provisions of rules 65(a) and (b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure” in 45:439(a) are omitted as surplus because the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 App. U.S.C.) apply in the district court unless otherwise provided. In clause (2), the words “or an amount agreed on in compromise” are added for clarity.

In subsection (b)(1), the text of 45:439(c) (words before 1st comma) is omitted because it applies only to actions brought by a State authority. See discussion of the cross-reference in the note for section 20113(c) of the revised title. The last sentence is substituted for “in which the individual resides” in 45:438(c) because of the restatement.

In subsection (b)(2), the words “compliance order issued under section 20111(b) of this title” are substituted for “order, or directive” because the latter words are interpreted as referring to “orders directing compliance” in 45:437(a) (2d sentence), restated in section 20111(b).

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
20112(a)	45:437(a) (last sentence related to authority to bring actions). 45:437(d)(2). 45:438(c) (4th sentence related to authority to bring actions). 45:439(a) (related to actions by Attorney General).	Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91–458, 84 Stat. 971, §208(a) (last sentence); added June 22, 1988, Pub. L. 100–342, §8, 102 Stat. 628. Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91–458, 84 Stat. 971, §208(d)(2); added Oct. 10, 1980, Pub. L. 96–423, §6(b), 94 Stat. 1814. Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91–458, §209(c) (4th sentence), 84 Stat. 975; Oct. 10, 1980, Pub. L. 96–423, §8(a), 94 Stat. 1814; June 22, 1988, Pub. L. 100–342, §3(a)(3)(A), (B), 102 Stat. 624. Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91–458, §210(a) (related to actions by Attorney General), 84 Stat. 975; Oct. 10, 1980, Pub. L. 96–423, §9(a), 94 Stat. 1814; Nov. 16, 1990, Pub. L. 101–615, §28(f), 104 Stat. 3277.
20112(b)(1) ..	45:438(c) (4th sentence related to venue). 45:439(c) (related to actions by Attorney General).	Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91–458, 84 Stat. 971, §210(c) (related to actions by Attorney General); added Oct. 10, 1980, Pub. L. 96–423, §9(b), 94 Stat. 1815.
20112(b)(2) ..	45:437(a) (last sentence related to venue).	

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words “At the request of the Secretary of Transportation” are substituted for “at the request of the Secretary” in 45:439(a), and are made applicable to all of the source provisions restated in this subsection, for clarity and consistency. The words “at the request of the Secretary” in 45:439(a) are interpreted and restated to

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2008—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 110–432, §309(1), inserted “this part, except for section 20109 of this title, or” after “enforce.”

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 110–432, §309(2), substituted “21301, 21302, or 21303” for “21301”.

Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 110–432, §309(3), (4), substituted “subpoena, request for admissions, request for production of documents or other tangible things, or request for testimony by deposition” for “subpena” and “part.” for “chapter.”

§ 20113. Enforcement by the States

(a) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—If the Secretary of Transportation does not begin a civil action under section 20112 of this title to enjoin the violation of a railroad safety regulation prescribed or order issued by the Secretary not later than 15 days after the date the Secretary receives notice of the violation and a request from a State authority participating in investigative and surveillance activities under section 20105 of this title that the action be brought, the authority may bring a civil action in a district court of the United States to enjoin the violation. This subsection does not apply if the Secretary makes an affirmative written finding that the violation did not occur or that the action is not necessary because of other enforcement action taken by the Secretary related to the violation.

(b) IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF CIVIL PENALTIES.—If the Secretary does not impose the

applicable civil penalty for a violation of a railroad safety regulation prescribed or order issued by the Secretary not later than 60 days after the date of receiving notice from a State authority participating in investigative and surveillance activities under section 20105 of this title, the authority may bring a civil action in a district court of the United States to impose and collect the penalty. This paragraph does not apply if the Secretary makes an affirmative written finding that the violation did not occur.

(c) VENUE.—A civil action under this section may be brought in the judicial district in which the violation occurred or the defendant has its principal executive office. However, a State authority may not bring an action under this section outside the State.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 869.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
20113(a)	45:436(b)(1) (related to authority to bring actions), (2). 45:439(a) (related to actions by States).	Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91–458, §207(b), (c), 84 Stat. 974; Nov. 2, 1978, Pub. L. 95–574, §8, 92 Stat. 2461; restated Oct. 10, 1980, Pub. L. 96–423, §5, 94 Stat. 1812. Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91–458, §210(a) (related to actions by States), 84 Stat. 975; Oct. 10, 1980, Pub. L. 96–423, §9(a), 94 Stat. 1814; Nov. 16, 1990, Pub. L. 101–615, §28(f), 104 Stat. 3277.
20113(b)	45:436(a)(1) (related to authority to bring actions), (2).	Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91–458, §207(a), 84 Stat. 974; Nov. 2, 1978, Pub. L. 95–574, §8, 92 Stat. 2461; restated Oct. 10, 1980, Pub. L. 96–423, §5, 94 Stat. 1812; Nov. 16, 1990, Pub. L. 101–615, §28(e), 104 Stat. 3277.
20113(c)	45:436(a)(1) (related to venue), (b)(1) (related to venue), (c). 45:439(c) (related to actions by States).	Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91–458, 84 Stat. 971, §210(c) (related to actions by States); added Oct. 10, 1980, Pub. L. 96–423, §9(b), 94 Stat. 1815.

In subsection (a), the language about jurisdiction in 45:439(a) (related to actions by States) is omitted for the reasons explained in the revision note for section 20112(a) of the revised title.

In subsection (b), the word “impose” is substituted for “assess” for consistency. The words “the authority may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States” are substituted for “agency may apply to the United States district court” for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code. The words “included in or made applicable to such rule, regulation, order, or standard” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (c), the reference to “section 207(d)” in section 210(c) of the Federal Railroad Safety Act of 1970 (Public Law 91–458, 84 Stat. 971), as added by section 9(b) of the Federal Railroad Safety Authorization Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–423, 94 Stat. 1815), is assumed to have been intended as a reference to section 207(c). The Federal Railroad Safety Authorization Act of 1980 was derived from S. 2730, which in turn was derived from H.R. 7104. See 126 Cong. Rec. 26535 (1980). Section 207(d) in an earlier version of H.R. 7104 was redesignated as section 207(c) during the legislative process and no section 207(d) was enacted. See H.R. Rept. No. 96–1025, 96th Cong., 2d Sess., pp. 14, 15 (1980).

§ 20114. Judicial procedures

(a) CRIMINAL CONTEMPT.—In a trial for criminal contempt for violating an injunction or restraining order issued under this chapter, the violation of which is also a violation of this chapter, the defendant may demand a jury trial. The defendant shall be tried as provided in rule 42(b) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure (18 App. U.S.C.).

(b) SUBPENAS FOR WITNESSES.—A subpoena for a witness required to attend a district court of the United States in an action brought under this chapter may be served in any judicial district.

(c) REVIEW OF AGENCY ACTION.—Except as provided in section 20104(c) of this title, a proceeding to review a final action of the Secretary of Transportation under this part or, as applicable to railroad safety, chapter 51 or 57 of this title shall be brought in the appropriate court of appeals as provided in chapter 158 of title 28.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 870.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
20114(a)	45:439(b).	Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91–458, §§209(d), 210(b), 84 Stat. 975, 976.
20114(b)	45:438(d).	Oct. 16, 1970, Pub. L. 91–458, §202(f), 84 Stat. 972; restated Sept. 3, 1992, Pub. L. 102–365, §5(a)(1), 106 Stat. 975.
20114(c)	45:431(f).	

In subsection (a), the words “the defendant may demand a jury trial” are substituted for “trial shall be by the court, or, upon demand of the accused, by a jury” to eliminate unnecessary words and for consistency in the revised title.

In subsection (b), the words “may be served in any judicial district” are substituted for “may run into any other district” for clarity.

In subsection (c), the words “a final action of the Secretary” are substituted for “Any final agency action taken by the Secretary” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “this part or, as applicable to railroad safety, chapter 51 or 57 of this title” are substituted for “this subchapter or under any of the other Federal railroad safety laws, as defined in section 441(e) of this title” because of the restatement. The words “is subject to judicial review as provided in chapter 7 of title 5” are omitted as unnecessary because 5:ch. 7 applies unless otherwise stated. The words “by and in the manner prescribed” are omitted as surplus.

§ 20115. User fees

(a) SCHEDULE OF FEES.—The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe by regulation a schedule of fees for railroad carriers subject to this chapter. The fees—

(1) shall cover the costs of carrying out this chapter (except section 20108(a));

(2) shall be imposed fairly on the railroad carriers, in reasonable relationship to an appropriate combination of criteria such as revenue ton-miles, track miles, passenger miles, or other relevant factors; and

(3) may not be based on that part of industry revenues attributable to a railroad carrier or class of railroad carriers.

(b) COLLECTION PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall prescribe procedures to collect the fees. The Secretary may use the services of a depart-