

private sector to ensure the adequate planning, including reasonable estimates of the costs and benefits, of high-speed rail systems;

“(8) improvement of existing technologies can facilitate the development of high-speed rail systems in the United States; and

“(9) Federal assistance is required for the improvement, adaptation, and integration of proven technologies for commercial application in high-speed rail service in the United States.

“(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this title [see Short Title of 1994 Amendment note set out under section 20101 of this title] is to encourage farsighted State, local, and private efforts in the analysis and planning for high-speed rail systems in appropriate intercity corridors.”

#### § 26102. High-speed rail technology improvements

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may undertake activities for the improvement, adaptation, and integration of proven technologies for commercial application in high-speed rail service in the United States.

(b) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—In carrying out activities authorized by subsection (a), the Secretary may provide financial assistance to any United States private business, educational institution located in the United States, State or local government or public authority, or agency of the Federal Government.

(c) CONSULTATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.—In carrying out activities authorized by subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with such other governmental agencies as may be necessary concerning the availability of appropriate technologies for commercial application in high-speed rail service in the United States.

(Added Pub. L. 103-440, title I, § 103(a)(2), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4617.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 26102 was renumbered section 28102 of this title.

#### § 26103. Safety regulations and evaluation

The Secretary—

(1) shall promulgate such safety regulations as may be necessary for high-speed rail services;

(2) shall, before promulgating such regulations, consult with developers of new high-speed rail technologies to develop a method for evaluating safety performance; and

(3) may solicit feedback from relevant safety experts or representatives of rail employees who perform work on similar technology or who may be expected to perform work on new technology, as appropriate.

(Added Pub. L. 103-440, title I, § 103(a)(2), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4618; amended Pub. L. 117-58, div. B, title II, § 22419(a), Nov. 15, 2021, 135 Stat. 749.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 117-58 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Secretary shall promulgate such safety regulations as may be necessary for high-speed rail services.”

#### § 26104. Authorization of appropriations

(a) FISCAL YEARS 2006 THROUGH 2013.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary—

(1) \$30,000,000 for carrying out section 26101; and

(2) \$30,000,000 for carrying out section 26102,

for each of the fiscal years 2006 through 2013.

(b) FUNDS TO REMAIN AVAILABLE.—Funds made available under this section shall remain available until expended.

(Added Pub. L. 103-440, title I, § 103(a)(2), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4618; amended Pub. L. 105-178, title VII, § 7201(a), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 469; Pub. L. 109-59, title IX, § 9001(b), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1919; Pub. L. 110-432, div. B, title V, § 501(b), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4960.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

2008—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 110-432 substituted “\$30,000,000” for “\$70,000,000”.

2005—Pub. L. 109-59 amended heading and text of section generally. Prior to amendment, text consisted of subsecs. (a) to (h) relating to authorization of appropriations for fiscal years 1995 through 2001 and availability of funds.

1998—Subsecs. (d) to (h). Pub. L. 105-178 added subsecs. (d) to (g) and redesignated former subsec. (d) as (h).

#### § 26105. Definitions

For purposes of this chapter—

(1) the term “financial assistance” includes grants, contracts,<sup>1</sup> cooperative agreements, and other transactions;

(2) the term “high-speed rail” means all forms of nonhighway ground transportation that run on rails or electromagnetic guideways providing transportation service which is—

(A) reasonably expected to reach sustained speeds of more than 125 miles per hour; and

(B) made available to members of the general public as passengers,

but does not include rapid transit operations within an urban area that are not connected to the general rail system of transportation;

(3) the term “publicly financed costs” means the costs funded after April 29, 1993, by Federal, State, and local governments;

(4) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Transportation;

(5) the term “State” means any of the several States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and any other territory or possession of the United States; and

(6) the term “United States private business” means a business entity organized under the laws of the United States, or of a State, and conducting substantial business operations in the United States.

(Added Pub. L. 103-440, title I, § 103(a)(2), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4618; amended Pub. L. 105-178, title

<sup>1</sup> So in original.