

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8615

To amend title 49, United States Code, to limit the preference for Amtrak using rail lines, junctions, and crossings near ports and rail yards, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 29, 2022

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to limit the preference for Amtrak using rail lines, junctions, and crossings near ports and rail yards, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. LIMITATION OF PREFERENCE FOR AMTRAK.**

4 Section 24308(c) of title 49, United States Code, is  
5 amended—

6 (1) by striking “Except in an emergency” and  
7 inserting the following:

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
2           graph (2) or paragraph (3) or in an emergency”;  
3           and

4           (2) by adding at the end the following:

5           “(2) LIMITATION OF PREFERENCE.—Beginning  
6           on the date of enactment of this paragraph and end-  
7           ing on the date that is 5 years after such date, inter-  
8           city and commuter rail passenger transportation  
9           provided by or for Amtrak shall not have preference  
10          over freight transportation in using a rail line, junc-  
11          tion, or crossing if such rail line, junction, or cross-  
12          ing is located within 50 miles of a port or rail yard.

13          “(3) WAIVER BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary  
14          may issue such regulations as are necessary to con-  
15          tinue the preference waiver described in paragraph  
16          (2).”.

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