

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 265

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require Amtrak to submit to Congress an annual report with respect to the implementation of certain recommendations of the Amtrak Food and Beverage Working Group for improving the food and beverage service of Amtrak, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2025

Mr. COHEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require Amtrak to submit to Congress an annual report with respect to the implementation of certain recommendations of the Amtrak Food and Beverage Working Group for improving the food and beverage service of Amtrak, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Train Furtherance of
5 Outstanding Onboard Dining Act” or the “Train FOOD
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. OVERSIGHT OF IMPLEMENTATION BY AMTRAK OF**
2 **RECOMMENDATIONS OF AMTRAK FOOD AND**
3 **BEVERAGE WORKING GROUP.**

4 (a) ANNUAL AMTRAK REPORT.—Section 24321 of
5 title 49, United States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
7 section (f); and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
9 lowing new subsections:

10 “(d) IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

11 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year
12 after the date of enactment of the Train Further-
13 ance of Outstanding Onboard Dining Act, Amtrak
14 shall establish an advisory committee to provide in-
15 ternal review with respect to the implementation by
16 Amtrak of the recommendations contained in the re-
17 port under subsection (b).

18 “(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The advisory committee
19 shall consist of individuals representing—

20 “(A) Amtrak;

21 “(B) the labor organizations representing
22 Amtrak employees who prepare or provide on-
23 board food and beverage service;

24 “(C) nonprofit organizations representing
25 Amtrak passengers; and

1 “(D) States that are providing funding for
2 State-supported routes.

3 “(3) TERMINATION.—The advisory committee
4 shall terminate on the date on which Amtrak sub-
5 mits the final report required under subsection
6 (e)(1).

7 “(e) ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION STATUS REPORT.—

8 “(1) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year
9 after the date of enactment of the Train Further-
10 ance of Outstanding Onboard Dining Act and annu-
11 ally thereafter until such time as all recommenda-
12 tions contained in the report under subsection (b)
13 are implemented by Amtrak or determined by Am-
14 trak to be impractical or impossible to implement,
15 Amtrak shall—

16 “(A) submit to the Committee on Com-
17 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
18 ate and the Committee on Transportation and
19 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
20 a report on the status of the implementation of
21 each such recommendation; and

22 “(B) make the report available on a pub-
23 licly accessible website of Amtrak.

24 “(2) REPORT CONTENTS.—Each report under
25 paragraph (1) shall include—

1 “(A) a description of the progress made by
2 Amtrak in implementing each recommendation
3 contained in the report under subsection (b);

4 “(B) identification of each such rec-
5 ommendation for which implementation is com-
6 plete;

7 “(C) identification of each such rec-
8 ommendation that Amtrak determines to be im-
9 practical or impossible to implement;

10 “(D) for each recommendation identified
11 under subparagraph (C)—

12 “(i) the justification for the deter-
13 mination that the recommendation is im-
14 practical or impossible to implement; and

15 “(ii) if the justification is all, or in
16 part, attributable to insufficient funding,
17 an estimated cost of implementing the rec-
18 ommendation;

19 “(E) a description of how, if at all, food
20 and beverage service of Amtrak has changed—

21 “(i) if in the initial report, since the
22 date of enactment of the Train Further-
23 ance of Outstanding Onboard Dining Act;
24 and

1 “(ii) if in a subsequent report, since
2 the date on which the previous report was
3 finalized; and

4 “(F) comments submitted by the advisory
5 committee to Amtrak regarding the information
6 included under subparagraphs (A) through
7 (E).”.

8 (b) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
10 of the United States shall submit to the Committee on
11 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
12 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
13 the House of Representatives a report describing the
14 progress made by Amtrak in implementing each rec-
15 ommendation contained in the report under section
16 24321(b) of title 49, United States Code.

○