

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 188

To require that the Amtrak Board of Directors comply with the open meetings requirements of section 552b of title 5, United States Code, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2025

Mr. NEHLS (for himself and Mr. GRAVES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To require that the Amtrak Board of Directors comply with the open meetings requirements of section 552b of title 5, United States Code, 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 “Amtrak Transparency
5 and Accountability for Passengers and Taxpayers Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. OPEN MEETINGS.**

7 Section 24301(e) of title 49, United States Code, is
8 amended—

1 (1) by striking “Section 552 of title 5, this
2 part” and inserting the following:

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
4 graph (3), sections 552 and 552b of title 5, this
5 part”;

6 (2) in the second sentence by striking “Section
7 552 of title 5, United States Code, applies” and in-
8 serting the following:

9 “(2) TIMING OF APPLICATION.—Except as pro-
10 vided in paragraph (3), sections 552 and 552b of
11 title 5 apply”; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(3) SCOPE OF APPLICATION.—

14 “(A) INFORMATION.—The requirements of
15 the second sentence of section 552b(b) of title
16 5 shall not apply to any portion of an Amtrak
17 meeting and subsections (d) and (e) of section
18 552b of title 5 shall not apply to any informa-
19 tion pertaining to any portion of an Amtrak
20 meeting otherwise required by section 552b of
21 title 5 to be disclosed to the public in any case
22 in which Amtrak properly determines that such
23 portion or portions of the meeting or the disclo-
24 sure of such information is likely to involve—

1 “(i) contract negotiations, including
2 negotiations for contract procurements and
3 agreements, the disclosure of which would
4 imperil or compromise the competitive po-
5 sition of Amtrak;

6 “(ii) collective bargaining agreements
7 or any terms and conditions that are pro-
8 posed for inclusion in any collective bar-
9 gaining agreement, including the negotia-
10 tion of terms and conditions with employ-
11 ees or representatives of employees of Am-
12 trak; and

13 “(iii) with respect to any individual
14 who is a prospective officer, employee, or
15 contractor or an officer, employee, or con-
16 tractor employed or appointed by Amtrak,
17 matters involving the employment, appoint-
18 ment, termination of employment, terms
19 and conditions of employment, evaluation
20 of the performance of, promotion or dis-
21 ciplining of any such individual, unless all
22 such individuals whose rights could be ad-
23 versely affected request in writing that the
24 matter or matters be discussed at a public
25 meeting.

1 “(B) ADDITIONAL APPLICATION.—In addi-
2 tion to the information described in subpara-
3 graph (B), the information described in section
4 552b(c) shall apply to Amtrak meetings.”.

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