



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad
Administration**

**Railroad Safety Advisory Committee
Task Statement:
Passenger Hours of Service**

Task No.: 09-01

Date initially presented to the RSAC: April 2, 2009

Purpose:

To provide advice regarding development of implementing regulations for the hours service of operating employees of commuter and intercity passenger railroads under the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (Act).

Description:

- Review available data concerning the effects of fatigue on the performance of subject employees.
- Consider the role of fatigue prevention in determining maximum hours of service.
- Consider the potential for alternative approaches to hour of service using available tools for evaluating the impact of various crew schedules.
- Determine the effect of alternative approaches on the availability of employees to support passenger service.

Issues requiring specific report:

- Whether existing hours of service restrictions are effective in preventing fatigue among subject employees.
- Whether an alternative approach to hours of service for the subject employees would enhance safety.
- Whether alternative restrictions on hours of service could be coupled with other fatigue countermeasures to promote the fitness of employees for safety-critical duties.

Source:

Sections 21102(c) and 21109(b), (c) and (d), title 49, United States Code, as enacted by section 108, Division A, Public Law No. 110-432.

Refer to/establish following working group: Passenger Hours of Service Working Group

Target Dates:

Convene initial meeting as soon as work/rest data is available, but not later than July 2009. Report recommendations not later than November 13, 2009.

Disposition: Accepted

Date: April 2, 2009