

No. 1980-75

AN ACT

HB 2231

Adopting the interstate high speed intercity rail passenger network compact and for related purposes.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. The interstate agreement on a high speed intercity rail passenger network is enacted into law and entered into by this Commonwealth as a party thereto with all jurisdictions legally joining therein, in the form substantially as follows:

**INTERSTATE HIGH SPEED INTERCITY RAIL
PASSENGER NETWORK COMPACT**

The party states solemnly agree:

ARTICLE I. POLICY AND PURPOSE

Because the beneficial service of and profitability of a high speed intercity rail passenger system would be enhanced by establishing such a system which would operate across state lines, it is the policy of the states party to this compact to cooperate and share jointly the responsibilities concerning the operation of such a system connecting major cities in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Illinois, West Virginia and Kentucky.

ARTICLE II. COOPERATION

The states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Illinois, West Virginia and Kentucky, hereinafter referred to as participating states, agree to, upon adoption of this compact by the respective states, jointly participate in providing such information and data as is available and may be requested by a participating state or any consulting firms representing a participating state or the compact. It is mutually understood by the participating states that such information shall not include matters not of public record or of a nature considered to be privileged and confidential unless the state providing such information agrees to waive the confidentiality. The participating states further agree to make available to each other and to any consulting firm representing the member states or the compact such assistance as may be legal, proper and available, including but not limited to personnel, equipment, office space, machinery, computers, engineering and technical advice and services.

ARTICLE III. INTERSTATE RAIL PASSENGER ADVISORY COUNCIL

There is hereby created an interstate rail passenger advisory council, the membership of which shall consist of two representatives from each participating state, one representative shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the other shall be appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate and there shall be an ex officio representative appointed by the Governor. The members of the advisory council shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority. The members shall select designees who shall serve in the absence of the members. The advisory council shall meet within thirty days after ratification of this agreement by at least two participating states and establish rules for the conduct of the advisory council's business.

The advisory council shall coordinate all aspects of the high speed intercity rail passenger system relative to interstate connections and shall do all other things necessary and proper for the completion of the system.

ARTICLE IV. EFFECTIVE DATE

This compact shall become effective upon the adoption of the compact into law by two or more of the participating states. Thereafter, it shall enter into force and effect as to any other participating state upon the enactment thereof by such state.

This compact shall continue in force with respect to a participating state and remain binding upon such state until six months after such state has given notice to each other participating state of the repeal thereof. Such withdrawal shall not be construed to relieve any participating state from any obligation incurred prior to the end of the state's participation in the compact as provided herein.

ARTICLE V. CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. The provisions of this compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any participating state or of the United States or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this compact and the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby. If this compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any participating state, the compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining states and in full force and effect as to the state affected as to all severable matters.

Section 2. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall transmit a duly authenticated copy of this act and the compact contained herein

to each jurisdiction now party to the compact and to each jurisdiction which subsequently shall become party to the compact.

Section 3. No moneys shall be committed without approval of the General Assembly.

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 22nd day of June, A. D. 1980.

DICK THORNBURGH