

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 369

To authorize and appropriate funding for grants to Amtrak for the restoration of long-distance routes and the rehiring of employees furloughed as a result of the COVID–19 pandemic.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 23, 2021

Mr. TESTER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To authorize and appropriate funding for grants to Amtrak for the restoration of long-distance routes and the rehiring of employees furloughed as a result of the COVID–19 pandemic.

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. GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PAS-**
4 **SENGER CORPORATION FOR LONG-DISTANCE**
5 **SERVICE RESTORATION AND EMPLOYEE RE-**
6 **CALLS.**

7 (a) APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to amounts other-
8 wise made available, there are appropriated for fiscal year

1 2021, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise ap-
2 propriated, \$165,926,000, which shall remain available
3 until September 30, 2024, for grants to the National Rail-
4 road Passenger Corporation (commonly known as “Am-
5 trak”).

6 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds appropriated
7 under subsection (a) may be used by Amtrak—

8 (1) to restore, not later than 90 days after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act, the frequency of
10 rail service on long-distance routes (as defined in
11 section 24102 of title 49, United States Code) that
12 Amtrak reduced the frequency of on or after July 1,
13 2020, and continue to operate such service at such
14 frequency; and

15 (2) to recall and manage employees furloughed
16 on or after October 1, 2020, as a result of efforts
17 to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the 2019
18 novel coronavirus disease pandemic.

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