



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Friday, November 9 has a story involving railroad legislation and an actuality involving year-round Daylight Saving Time.

First, a Department spokesman reads a statement issued by Transportation Secretary Claude Brinegar following the House of Representative's approval of the Regional Rail Reorganization Act of 1973 -- often referred to as the Northeast Rail Bill.

"The failure of the House yesterday to accept vital amendments to the Northeast Railroad Bill leaves this significant legislation imposing a far too expensive and unnecessary burden on the nation's taxpayers. It is also a potential windfall for the creditors of the bankrupt railroads. I note that the stock of Penn Central has gone up 60% in a day and a half.

"It is regrettable that suggested corrective amendments were not adopted to protect the taxpayers in the nation from having to pay excessive labor and acquisition costs. Unless the Senate is prepared to address these problems, I will be unable to recommend such legislation to the President."

Next, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Policy, Plans, and International Affairs, Dr. Irwin Halpern, testified today before the Senate Commerce Committee on the energy crisis and year-round daylight saving time. Commenting on a proposal that no states be allowed to exempt themselves from the bills, he said:

"There is a larger consideration here. We are concerned about, in the first instance, dealing with an emergency fuel situation and we believe that it is essential that the advanced time be uniformly implemented across the United States in an effort to make the most savings in the fuel area."

This has been the Transportation News Report.

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