

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE**  
**PRINT 117-8**  
**OFFERED BY MR. SUOZZI OF NEW YORK**

Page 1358, after line 11, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 9307. NORTH ATLANTIC RAIL INTERSTATE COMPACT.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 249 of title 49, United  
3 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 24905  
4 the following:

5 **“§ 24905A. North Atlantic Rail Interstate Compact;**

6 **North Atlantic Rail Network**

7 “(a) NORTH ATLANTIC RAIL INTERSTATE COM-  
8 PACT.—

9 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180  
10 days after the date of the enactment of this section,  
11 the Secretary of Transportation shall appoint a di-  
12 rector for the North Atlantic Rail Interstate Com-  
13 pact (referred to in this section as the ‘Compact’) in  
14 collaboration with states identified in paragraph  
15 (2)(A).

16 “(2) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

17 “(A) COMPOSITION.—The Compact shall  
18 be governed by a board of directors, which shall  
19 be composed of directors, of whom—

1                   “(i) 2 directors shall be appointed by  
2                   the Secretary of Transportation;

3                   “(ii) 1 director shall be appointed by  
4                   the Chief Executive Officer of Amtrak;

5                   “(iii) 2 directors shall be appointed by  
6                   the Governor of Connecticut;

7                   “(iv) 2 directors shall be appointed by  
8                   the Governor of Maine;

9                   “(v) 2 directors shall be appointed by  
10                  the Governor of Massachusetts;

11                  “(vi) 2 directors shall be appointed by  
12                  the Governor of New Hampshire;

13                  “(vii) 2 directors shall be appointed  
14                  by the Governor of New York;

15                  “(viii) 2 directors shall be appointed  
16                  by the Governor of Rhode Island; and

17                  “(ix) 2 directors shall be appointed by  
18                  the Governor of Vermont

19                  “(B) TERM; QUALIFICATIONS.—Of the in-  
20                  dividuals appointed pursuant to each of the  
21                  clauses (iii) through (ix) of paragraph (1)—

22                  “(i) 1 shall be the head of the respec-  
23                  tive State department of transportation;  
24                  and

1 “(ii) the other director appointed by  
2 the respective governor—

3 “(I) shall serve for a 5-year term;

4 “(II) shall be a resident of the  
5 appointing governor’s State;

6 “(III) may not be an employee of  
7 the government of such State; and

8 “(IV) shall be an expert in trans-  
9 portation policy, finance, public policy,  
10 planning or a related discipline associ-  
11 ated with the purpose and mission of  
12 the Compact.

13 “(C) NO COMPENSATION.—Directors shall  
14 serve without pay, but shall receive travel ex-  
15 penses, including per diem in lieu of subsist-  
16 ence, in accordance with applicable provisions of  
17 subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United  
18 States Code.

19 “(3) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Compact  
20 shall be to construct, on an accelerated basis, a  
21 North Atlantic Rail Network in order—

22 “(A) to provide clean, safe, coordinated  
23 and efficient high-speed and high-performance  
24 passenger rail transportation in the 7-State  
25 North Atlantic Rail Network region; including

1 the improvement of existing intercity passenger  
2 rail services;

3 “(B) to reduce carbon emissions from auto  
4 and air transportation in such region in order  
5 to meet the greenhouse gas performance targets  
6 established under section 150(d) of title 23; and

7 “(C) to provide employment opportunities  
8 and economic development in the cities and re-  
9 gions served by a North Atlantic Rail Network.

10 “(4) STAFFING.—The directors and officers of  
11 the Compact may appoint and fix the pay of such  
12 personnel, as they consider necessary and appro-  
13 priate, to advance the design and construction of a  
14 North Atlantic Rail Network.

15 “(5) COORDINATION.—The Compact, in design-  
16 ing and constructing a North Atlantic Rail Network,  
17 shall coordinate and cooperate with—

18 “(A) the Secretary of Transportation;

19 “(B) the Northeast Corridor Commission;

20 “(C) Amtrak;

21 “(D) State departments of transportation,  
22 regional transportation authorities, and other  
23 State-established entities, responsible for the  
24 provision of passenger rail in the North Atlantic  
25 Rail Network region; and

1           “(E) freight railroads that host passenger  
2           trains or operate freight trains over passenger  
3           rail lines within the territory.

4           “(b) NORTH ATLANTIC RAIL NETWORK.—

5           “(1) CREATION.—Notwithstanding the existing  
6           service along the Northeast Corridor, the Compact  
7           shall construct a North Atlantic Rail Network,  
8           which may include—

9           “(A) additional high-speed rail service be-  
10          tween Boston and New York;

11          “(B) a high-performance network of inter-  
12          city passenger rail transportation throughout  
13          the 7-State region; and

14          “(C) an integrated network of metropolitan  
15          passenger rail transportation coordinated with  
16          the high-speed rail service referred to in sub-  
17          paragraph (A).

18          “(2) AUTHORIZATIONS.—The Compact shall  
19          have the same authorities provided to interstate  
20          compacts in section 410 of the Amtrak Reform and  
21          Accountability Act of 1997 (49 U.S.C. 24101 note),  
22          including—

23          “(A) receiving appropriations—

1           “(i) to plan, design, engineer, and ac-  
2           quire property (including railroad rights-  
3           of-way);

4           “(ii) to conduct competitive procure-  
5           ments;

6           “(iii) to enter into construction con-  
7           tracts;

8           “(iv) to form project labor agree-  
9           ments; and

10          “(v) to construct a North Atlantic  
11          Rail Network;

12          “(B) utilizing all design-build and other al-  
13          ternative procurement policies and practices ap-  
14          proved by the Department of Transportation;

15          “(C) utilizing existing authorities to expedite reviews for infrastructure investment within existing rights of way under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

20          “(D) contracting with Amtrak, State departments of transportation, or related operating entities within the 7-State North Atlantic Rail Network region to design or construct elements of a North Atlantic Rail Network.

1           “(3) COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATIONS.—The  
2 Compact shall commence operations and be eligible  
3 for appropriated funding in any State that has rati-  
4 fied the Compact, upon the ratification of a min-  
5 imum of 2 states of the Compact.

6           “(4) RESPONSIBILITIES.—If a State depart-  
7 ment of transportation or its related operating entity  
8 owns the right-of-way for a rail line segment within  
9 a North Atlantic Rail Network, such department or  
10 entity shall be responsible for the design and con-  
11 struction of improvements on such segment of a  
12 North Atlantic Rail Network.

13           “(5) WORK PERFORMED ON RIGHT-OF-WAY.—  
14 Notwithstanding paragraph (2)(D), all work done in  
15 existing rail right-of-way shall be performed only in  
16 accordance with the rail collective bargaining agree-  
17 ments applicable to work performed on such right-  
18 of-way.”.

19           (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-  
20 ter 249 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by  
21 inserting after the item relating to section 24905 the fol-  
22 lowing:

“24905A. North Atlantic Rail Interstate Compact; North Atlantic Rail Net-  
work.”.

23           (c) SUNSET.—Upon the earlier of the completion of  
24 the construction of all of the elements of a North Atlantic

1 Rail Network created pursuant to subsection (b)(1) of sec-  
2 tion 24905A of title 49, United States Code, as added by  
3 this Act, or the date that is 20 years after the date of  
4 the enactment of this Act—

5 (1) the North Atlantic Rail Interstate Compact  
6 established pursuant to subsection (a)(1) of such  
7 section shall be dissolved; and

8 (2) the assets of the North Atlantic Rail Inter-  
9 state Compact shall be transferred to Amtrak.

