

The relevant section of the statute, Interstate Commerce Act, Section 20. The specific section follows.

EXCERPTS FROM THE LAW

Interstate Commerce Act, Part I

Section 20

(1) The Commission is hereby authorized to require annual, periodical, or special reports from carriers, lessors, * * * (as defined in this section), to prescribe the manner and form in which such reports shall be made, and to require from such carriers, lessors, * * * specific and full, true, and correct answers to all questions upon which the Commission may deem information to be necessary, classify such carriers, lessors, * * * as it may deem proper for any of these purposes. Such annual reports shall give an account of the affairs of the carrier, lessor, * * * in such form and detail as may be prescribed by the Commission.

(2) Said annual reports shall contain all the required information for the period of twelve months ending on the 31st day of December in each year, unless the Commission shall specify a different date, and shall be made out under oath and filed with the Commission at its office in Washington within three months after the close of the year for which report is made, unless additional time be granted in any case by the Commission.

GENERAL PENALTIES

Section 20

(7)(b) Any person who shall knowingly and willfully make, cause to be made, or participate in the making of any false entry in any annual or other report required under this section to be filed, * * * or shall knowingly or willfully file with the Commission any false report, or other document, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject, upon conviction in any court of the United States of competent jurisdiction to a fine of not more than five thousand dollars or imprisonment for not more than two years, or both such fine and imprisonment: * * *

(7)(c) Any carrier or lessor, or any officer, agent, employee, or representative thereof, who shall fail to make and file an annual or other report with the Commission within the time fixed by the Commission, or to make specific and full true and correct answer to any question within thirty days from the time it is lawfully required by the Commission so to do, shall forfeit to the United States the sum of one hundred dollars for each and every day it shall continue to be in default with respect thereto.