

Private Law 104-1  
104th Congress

An Act

For the relief of Benchmark Rail Group, Inc.

July 24, 1996  
[H.R. 419]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

California.

**SECTION 1. FINDING AND PURPOSE.**

(a) **FINDING.**—The Congress finds that Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., of St. Louis, Missouri, satisfactorily performed emergency work after the Northridge earthquake, but has not been reimbursed as a result of a technicality under California State law.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this Act is to fairly compensate Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., for the work for which, except for the technicality under California State law, it would otherwise have been paid under the provisions of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121).

**SEC. 2. PAYMENT.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall pay to Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., of St. Louis, Missouri, an amount equal to the total amount owed to Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the State of California to compensate Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., for the emergency work and services performed at the request of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority, to the extent that such work and services are otherwise eligible for reimbursement under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121). The payment shall be made from funds appropriated to implement such Act.

(b) **DEOBLIGATION OF FUNDS.**—The Federal Emergency Management Agency shall deobligate an equal amount to that obligated previously for payment to the State of California to cover the costs of work performed for the Southern California Regional Rail Authority by Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., after the Northridge earthquake which would have been eligible for reimbursement under such Act.

Approved July 24, 1996.