

No. 473, S.]

[Published July 30, 1951.

CHAPTER 565.

AN ACT to amend 196.81 of the statutes, relating to discontinuing or abandoning a railroad line, branch line or any extension thereof or service thereon.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

196.81 of the statutes is amended to read:

196.81 No public utility or railroad as defined in chapters 195 and 196 shall abandon or discontinue any line, branch line or extension or service thereon without first securing the approval of the commission. *No railroad shall discontinue any regularly scheduled passenger train without notifying the commission in writing not less than 20 days before such discontinuance and the commission, if it deems that the public interest so requires,*

may within said period give notice of a hearing thereon, whereupon the railroad shall continue the operation of said train until and unless otherwise authorized by the commission after hearing, provided that this amendment (1951) shall not apply to street or interurban electric railway operations. In granting its approval, the commission may impose such terms, conditions or requirements as in its judgment are necessary to protect the public interest. Any public utility or railroad abandoning or discontinuing in pursuance of authority granted by the commission shall be deemed to have waived any and all objections to the terms, conditions or requirements imposed by the commission in that regard. Nothing herein contained, however, shall be construed to eliminate the necessity of obtaining the consent of the proper municipal authorities as required by section 193.11. The provisions of this section shall apply only so far as the constitution and laws of the United States permit.

Approved July 6, 1951.
