

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of the Solicitor General

Washington, D.C. 20530

October 30, 2018

Honorable Scott S. Harris Clerk Supreme Court of the United States Washington, D.C. 20543

Re: <u>BNSF Railway Company</u> v. <u>Loos</u>, No. 17-1042

Dear Mr. Harris:

The government writes to advise the Court that several sentences in its amicus brief erroneously cite *Section 2* of the Act of July 31, 1946 as making changes to the Railroad Retirement Tax Act (RRTA), instead of *Section 3* of the 1946 statute.

Specifically, the statement (Br. 5) that the 1946 statute "replaced language requiring each railroad employee to pay taxes on 'compensation * * * earned by' the employee with language requiring the employee to pay taxes on compensation 'paid to' the employee" should be followed by a citation of Section 3(a) of the 1946 statute, 60 Stat. 723, instead of Section 2, 60 Stat. 722, which modified the companion benefits statute known as the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA). Similarly, the statements (Br. 5) that the 1946 statute created "a 'presum[ption]' that compensation was earned in the period in which it was paid" and provided "additional guidance concerning when employers' payments should be deemed to be for 'time lost'" should be followed with a citation of Section 3(f), 60 Stat. 725, which amended the RRTA, in addition to the brief's citation of Section 2, which made parallel changes to the RRA. Page 26 also erroneously cites Section 2, instead of Section 3(f), for the latter changes to the RRTA.

I would appreciate it if you would circulate this letter to the Members of the Court.

Sincerely,

Noel J. Francisco Solicitor General

cc: See Attached Service List

17-1042 BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY MICHAEL D. LOOS

> LISA SCHIAVO BLATT ARNOLD & PORTER KAYE SCHOLER, LLP 601 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001 202-679-5257 LISA.BLATT@ARNOLDPORTER.COM

WILLIAM BRASHER BOYLE B RASHER LLC 211 NORTH BROADWAY SUITE 2300 ST. LOUIS, MO 63102

CHARLES G. COLE STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP 1330 CONNECTICUT AVE., N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20036 202-429-3000 CCOLE@STEPTOE.COM

DAVID C. FREDERICK
KELLOGG, HANSEN, TODD, FIDGEL &
FREDERICK, P.L.L.C
1615 M STREET, N.W.
SUITE 400
WASHINGTON, DC 20036
202-326-7900
DFREDERICK@KELLOGGHANSEN.COM

THOMAS A. PAYNE BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY 2650 LOU MENK DR. FORT WORTH, TX 76131 DANIEL SAPHIRE
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS
425 THIRD STREET, SW
SUITE 1000
WASHINGTON, DC 20024
202-639-2505
DSAPHIRE@AAR.ORG

MICHAEL F. TELLO TELLO LAW FIRM 2150 THIRD AVENUE NORTH, SUITE 10 ANOKA, MN 55303

MICHAEL A. WOLFF SCHLICHTER BOGARD & DENTON LLP 100 SOUTH FORUTH STREET SUITE 1200 SAINT LOUIS, MO 63102 314-621-6115 MWOLFF@USELAWS.COM