

tickets, free pass or free transportation for passengers or property between points within this State, except to its officers, employees, agents, pensioners, surgeons, physicians, attorneys-at-law and their families; to ministers of religion, inmates of hospitals, charitable and eleemosynary institutions and persons exclusively engaged in charitable and eleemosynary work; and to indigent, destitute and homeless persons, and to such persons when transported by charitable societies or hospitals, and the necessary agents employed in such transportation; to inmates of the national homes or State homes for disabled volunteer soldiers and of soldiers' and sailors' homes, including those about to enter and those returning home after discharge, and boards of managers of such homes; to necessary caretakers in transit; to employees of sleeping-car companies, express companies, telephone and telegraph companies doing business along the line of the issuing carrier; to railway mail service employees, post-office inspectors, custom inspectors, and immigration inspectors; to newsboys on trains, baggage agents; persons injured in accidents or wrecks, and physicians and nurses attending such persons; to the carriage, free or at reduced rates, of persons or property for the United States, State or municipal governments, or of the property to or from fairs and expositions for exhibit thereat; or the transportation, free, of any property as is provided by law. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit the interchange of free or reduced transportation between common carriers of or for their officers, agents, employees, attorneys and surgeons and their families, nor to prohibit any common carrier from carrying passengers or property free with the object of providing relief in cases of general epidemic, pestilence or other calamitous visitation; nor to prohibit any common carrier from transporting persons or property as incident to or connected with contracts for construction, operation or maintenance, and to the extent only that such free transportation is provided for in the contract for such work; nor to prevent any common carrier from transporting children under five years of age free.

Provided, further, that nothing in this Act shall prevent the issuance of mileage, excursion, school commutation or commutation passenger tickets, or half-fare tickets for the transportation of children under twelve years of age, or joint interchangeable mileage tickets, with special privileges as to the amount of free baggage that may be carried under mileage tickets of one hundred miles or more. But before any common carrier, subject to the provision of this Act, shall issue any such mileage, excursion, school commutation, commutation passenger tickets, half-fare tickets, or joint interchangeable mileage ticket, with special privileges as aforesaid, it shall file