

A  
**B I L L**

TO

Require train companies to offer customers the cheapest available fare as a first option; and for connected purposes.

**B**E IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

**1 Requirement to offer cheapest available fare**

- (1) The Secretary of State shall make regulations requiring train companies to offer customers the cheapest available fare as the first option.
- (2) The regulations shall include provisions—
  - (a) specifying what “the cheapest available fare” is to be taken to mean; 5
  - (b) providing that when the cheapest available fare is not offered as a first option, that the customer shall be entitled to a refund of the difference in fare;
  - (c) providing penalties for train companies which have been found to be contravening the regulations. 10
- (3) The regulations shall also provide that the Office of the Rail Regulator shall monitor, and report annually on, the operation of this Act and the level of compliance of train companies with it.
- (4) Regulations under this section shall be made by statutory instrument, and no such instrument shall be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, both Houses of Parliament. 15

**2 Short title, commencement and extent**

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Train Companies (Minimum Fares) Act 2013.
- (2) This Act shall come into force at the end of the period of two months beginning on the day on which it is passed. 20
- (3) This Act extends to England and Wales, and Scotland.

# Train Companies (Minimum Fares) Bill

---

---

A

## B I L L

To require train companies to offer customers the cheapest available fare as a first option; and for connected purposes.

*Presented by Thomas Docherty,  
supported by  
Sheila Gilmore, Iain McKenzie,  
Katy Clark, Geraint Davies  
and Graeme Morrice.*

---

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,  
to be Printed, 25 June 2012.*

---

© Parliamentary copyright House of Commons 2013

*This publication may be reproduced under the terms of the Open Parliament Licence, which is published at  
[www.parliament.uk/site-information/copyright](http://www.parliament.uk/site-information/copyright).*

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON – THE STATIONERY OFFICE LIMITED  
Printed in the United Kingdom by  
The Stationery Office Limited