

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1700

To authorize funds to further the strong Federal interest in the improvement of highways and transportation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 1997

Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. HILL, and Mrs. CUBIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To authorize funds to further the strong Federal interest in the improvement of highways and transportation, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Federal Lands Trans-
5 portation Improvement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COOPERATIVE FEDERAL LANDS TRANSPORTATION**
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title 23, United
4 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 205 the
5 following:

6 **“SEC. 206. COOPERATIVE FEDERAL LANDS TRANSPOR-**
7 **TATION PROGRAM.**

8 “(a) FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.—

9 “(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that public
10 roads owned by States—

11 “(A) can provide valuable assistance to the
12 Federal Government in ensuring adequate and
13 safe transportation to, in, and across federally
14 owned land and Indian reservations; and

15 “(B) supplement the efforts of the Federal
16 Government in developing and maintaining
17 roads to serve federally owned land and Indian
18 reservations.

19 “(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is
20 to further the Federal interest in State-owned or
21 State-maintained roads that provide transportation
22 to, in, or across federally owned land or Indian res-
23 ervations by establishing the Cooperative Federal
24 Lands Transportation Program.

25 “(b) PROGRAM.—There is established the Coopera-
26 tive Federal Lands Transportation Program (referred to

1 in this section as the ‘program’). Funds available for the
2 program may be used for projects, or portions of projects,
3 on State-owned or State-maintained highways that cross,
4 are adjacent to, or lead to federally owned land or Indian
5 reservations, as determined by the State. Such projects
6 shall be proposed by a State and selected by the Secretary.
7 A project proposed by a State under this section shall be
8 on a highway owned or maintained by the State and may
9 be a highway construction or maintenance project eligible
10 under this title or any project of a type described in sec-
11 tion 204(h).

12 “(c) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS FOR PROJECTS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary—

15 “(i) after consultation with the Ad-
16 ministrator of General Services, the Sec-
17 retary of the Interior, and the heads of
18 other agencies as appropriate, shall deter-
19 mine the percentage of the total land in
20 each State that is owned by the Federal
21 Government or that is held by the Federal
22 Government in trust;

23 “(ii) shall determine the sum of the
24 percentages determined under clause (i)

1 for States with respect to which the per-
2 centage is 4.5 or greater; and

3 “(iii) shall determine for each State
4 included in the determination under clause
5 (ii) the percentage obtained by dividing—

6 “(I) the percentage for the State
7 determined under clause (i); by

8 “(II) the sum determined under
9 clause (ii).

10 “(B) ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary
11 shall—

12 “(i) reduce any percentage determined
13 under subparagraph (A)(iii) that is greater
14 than 7.5 percent to 7.5 percent; and

15 “(ii) redistribute the percentage
16 points equal to any reduction under clause
17 (i) among other States included in the de-
18 termination under subparagraph (A)(ii) in
19 proportion to the percentages for those
20 States determined under subparagraph
21 (A)(iii).

22 “(2) AVAILABILITY TO STATES.—Except as
23 provided in paragraph (3), for each fiscal year, the
24 Secretary shall make funds available to carry out eli-

1 gible projects in a State in an amount equal to the
2 amount obtained by multiplying—

3 “(A) the percentage for the State, if any,
4 determined under paragraph (1); by

5 “(B) the funds made available for the pro-
6 gram for the fiscal year.

7 “(3) SELECTION OF PROJECTS.—The Secretary
8 may establish deadlines for States to submit pro-
9 posed projects for funding under this section, except
10 that in the case of fiscal year 1998 the deadline may
11 not be earlier than January 1, 1998. For each fiscal
12 year, if a State does not have pending, by that dead-
13 line, applications for projects with an estimated cost
14 equal to at least 3 times the amount for the State
15 determined under paragraph (2), the Secretary may
16 distribute, to 1 or more other States, at the Sec-
17 retary’s discretion, $\frac{1}{3}$ of the amount by which the
18 estimated cost of the State’s applications is less than
19 3 times the amount for the State determined under
20 paragraph (2).

21 “(d) TRANSFERS.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
23 provision of law, a State and the Secretary may
24 agree to transfer amounts made available to a State
25 under this section for use in carrying out projects on

1 any Federal lands highway that is located in the
2 State.

3 “(2) SPECIAL RULE.—This paragraph applies
4 to a State that contains a national park that was
5 visited by more than 2,500,000 people in 1996 and
6 comprises more than 3,000 square miles of land
7 area, including surface water, that is located in the
8 State. For such a State, 50 percent of the amount
9 that would otherwise be made available to the State
10 for each fiscal year under the program shall be made
11 available only for eligible highway uses in the na-
12 tional park and within the borders of the State. For
13 the purpose of making allocations under section
14 202(c), the Secretary may not take into account the
15 past or future availability, for use on park roads and
16 parkways in a national park, of funds made avail-
17 able for use in a national park by this paragraph.”.

18 (b) DEFINITION OF FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY IN-
19 VESTMENT.—Section 101(a) of title 23, United States
20 Code, is amended—

21 (1) by adding at the end the following:

22 “The term ‘Federal lands highway investment’ means
23 funds authorized for the Federal lands highways program
24 or the Cooperative Federal Lands Transportation Pro-
25 gram under chapter 2.”; and

1 (2) by reordering the undesignated paragraphs
2 so that they are in alphabetical order.

3 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for
4 chapter 2 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by
5 inserting after the item relating to section 205 the follow-
6 ing:

“206. Cooperative Federal Lands Transportation Program.”.

7 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 There is authorized to be appropriated out of the
9 Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Ac-
10 count), for the Cooperative Federal Lands Transportation
11 Program under section 206 of title 23, United States
12 Code, \$200,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1998
13 through 2002.

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