

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 723

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a highway in California connecting State Route 130 in Santa Clara County with Interstate Route 5 in San Joaquin County, and to determine the feasibility of constructing a fixed guideway system along the right-of-way of the highway.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 9, 2005

Mr. POMBO (for himself, Mr. DOOLITTLE, and Mr. NUNES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a highway in California connecting State Route 130 in Santa Clara County with Interstate Route 5 in San Joaquin County, and to determine the feasibility of constructing a fixed guideway system along the right-of-way of the highway.

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

1 **SECTION 1. FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF**
2 **HIGHWAY AND FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEM IN**
3 **SANTA CLARA AND SAN JOAQUIN COUNTIES,**
4 **CALIFORNIA.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

6 (1) More than half of the road miles on the
7 Interstate System are congested during peak travel
8 hours.

9 (2) Over the next 20 years, the United States
10 population is projected to increase by 60,000,000
11 people and highway travel by more than 40 percent.

12 (3) Highway capacity must be increased to pro-
13 mote safer travel conditions.

14 (4) Forty-two percent of the Nation's major
15 urban roads carry a high volume of traffic, which is
16 often more than they were designed to handle.

17 (5) Traffic congestion creates dangers for mo-
18 torists, slows the movement of goods, and hinders
19 economic competitiveness.

20 (6) Idling vehicles increase air pollution, while
21 wasted time and fuel cost the United States econ-
22 omy more than \$70,000,000,000 a year.

23 (b) FEASIBILITY STUDY.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transpor-
25 tation shall conduct a study to determine the feasi-
26 bility of constructing—

1 (A) a highway in California connecting
2 State Route 130 in Santa Clara County with
3 Interstate Route 5 in San Joaquin County; and

4 (B) a fixed guideway system along the
5 right-of-way of the highway.

6 (2) DELEGATION.—The Secretary shall delegate
7 responsibility for carrying out the study, with funds
8 made available to carry out this section, to the San
9 Joaquin Council of Governments upon request of the
10 Council.

11 (3) ASSUMPTIONS.—In conducting the study,
12 the Secretary shall use the following assumptions:

13 (A) The highway will be open only to pas-
14 senger vehicles.

15 (B) The highway will have a total of 6
16 lanes, including 3 lanes in each direction.

17 (C) A fixed guideway system will be con-
18 structed along the right-of-way of the highway.

19 (D) The highway and fixed guideway sys-
20 tem will be constructed using innovative financ-
21 ing.

22 (E) The highway and fixed guideway sys-
23 tem will be constructed using performance-
24 based contracting.

1 (F) The highway and fixed guideway sys-
2 tem will be constructed using procedures that
3 allow streamlined compliance with environ-
4 mental requirements, without undermining the
5 purpose of the requirements.

6 (G) The highway may contain high occu-
7 pancy vehicle lanes, energy-efficient vehicle
8 lanes, and high occupancy toll lanes.

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