

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 651

To amend SAFETEA–LU to improve the Intelligent Transportation System Program Advisory Committee, to require information and resources for the development of local smart communities, to help establish a 21st century transportation workforce, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 9, 2021

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To amend SAFETEA–LU to improve the Intelligent Transportation System Program Advisory Committee, to require information and resources for the development of local smart communities, to help establish a 21st century transportation workforce, 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 “Smart Transportation  
5 Advancement and Transition Act” or the “STAT Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PRO-**  
 2 **GRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

3 Section 5305 of SAFETEA-LU (23 U.S.C. 512 note;  
 4 Public Law 109–59) is amended by striking subsection (h)  
 5 and inserting the following:

6 “(h) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-  
 8 lish an advisory committee (referred to in this sub-  
 9 section as the ‘Committee’) to advise the Secretary  
 10 in carrying out this subtitle.

11 “(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee  
 13 shall—

14 “(i) be composed of not more than 25  
 15 members;

16 “(ii) be balanced between metropoli-  
 17 tan and rural interests; and

18 “(iii) include, at a minimum—

19 “(I) a representative of a State  
 20 department of transportation;

21 “(II) a representative of a local  
 22 department of transportation (other  
 23 than a metropolitan planning organi-  
 24 zation);

25 “(III) a representative of a State,  
 26 local, or regional transit agency;

1                   “(IV) a representative of a met-  
2                   ropolitan planning organization;

3                   “(V) a representative of a na-  
4                   tional transit association;

5                   “(VI) a representative of a na-  
6                   tional, State, or local transportation  
7                   agency or association;

8                   “(VII) a private sector user of in-  
9                   telligent transportation system tech-  
10                  nologies, including emerging vehicle  
11                  technologies;

12                  “(VIII) a private sector developer  
13                  of intelligent transportation system  
14                  technologies, including emerging vehi-  
15                  cle technologies;

16                  “(IX) an academic researcher—

17                         “(aa) with expertise in com-  
18                         puter science or another informa-  
19                         tion science field related to intel-  
20                         ligent transportation systems;  
21                         and

22                         “(bb) who is not an expert  
23                         on transportation issues;

1           “(X) an academic researcher in  
2           civil engineering or a civil engineering  
3           practitioner;

4           “(XI) an academic researcher  
5           who is a social scientist with expertise  
6           in transportation issues;

7           “(XII) an academic researcher  
8           with expertise in labor issues, includ-  
9           ing—

10                   “(aa) disruptions due to  
11                   technology; and

12                   “(bb) opportunities and bar-  
13                   riers related to transportation  
14                   and the incorporation of emerg-  
15                   ing technology;

16           “(XIII) a representative of a  
17           nonprofit group representing the intel-  
18           ligent transportation system industry;

19           “(XIV) a representative of a pub-  
20           lic interest group concerned with safe-  
21           ty, including bicycle and pedestrian  
22           interests;

23           “(XV) a representative of a labor  
24           organization;

1           “(XVI) a representative of a mo-  
2           bility-providing entity, including for  
3           seniors and people with disabilities;

4           “(XVII) an expert in traffic man-  
5           agement;

6           “(XVIII) a representative of a  
7           public interest group concerned with  
8           the impact of the transportation sys-  
9           tem on land use and residential pat-  
10          terns, including housing availability;

11          “(XIX) members with expertise  
12          in planning, safety, and operations;

13          “(XX) a member with expertise  
14          in law enforcement; and

15          “(XXI) a member with expertise  
16          in cybersecurity.

17          “(B) TERM.—

18                 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-  
19                 vided in clause (ii), the term of a member  
20                 of the Committee shall be 3 years.

21                 “(ii) STAGGERED TERMS.—

22                         “(I) IN GENERAL.—Of the mem-  
23                         bers first appointed to the Com-  
24                         mittee—

1                   “(aa)  $\frac{1}{3}$  shall be appointed  
2                   for a term of 1 year;

3                   “(bb)  $\frac{1}{3}$  shall be appointed  
4                   for a term of 2 years; and

5                   “(cc)  $\frac{1}{3}$  shall be appointed  
6                   for a term of 3 years.

7                   “(II) TIMING.—The terms de-  
8                   scribed in subclause (I) shall not  
9                   begin until the last member of the  
10                  members referred to in that subclause  
11                  is appointed.

12                  “(iii) RENEWAL.—On expiration of  
13                  the term of a member of the Committee,  
14                  the member—

15                         “(I) may be reappointed; and

16                         “(II) if the member is not re-  
17                         appointed under subclause (I), may  
18                         serve until a new member is ap-  
19                         pointed.

20                  “(3) DUTIES.—The Committee shall, at a min-  
21                  imum—

22                         “(A) provide input into the development of  
23                         the intelligent transportation system aspects of  
24                         the 5-year strategic plan under section 6503 of  
25                         title 49, United States Code;

1           “(B) annually review areas of intelligent  
2 transportation systems programs and research  
3 being considered for funding by the Depart-  
4 ment, to determine—

5           “(i) whether those areas of research  
6 are likely to advance the state of the prac-  
7 tice or state of the art in intelligent trans-  
8 portation systems;

9           “(ii) whether intelligent transportation  
10 system technologies are likely to be de-  
11 ployed by users, and if not, to determine  
12 the barriers to deployment;

13           “(iii) the appropriate roles for govern-  
14 ment and the private sector in investing in  
15 the research and technologies being consid-  
16 ered;

17           “(iv) how Federal resources, especially  
18 resources provided by the Department, are  
19 being utilized to advance intelligent trans-  
20 portation systems; and

21           “(v) how the Department is engaging  
22 and supporting local communities in the  
23 adoption and integration of intelligent  
24 transportation systems across all modes;

1           “(C) help develop and revise the resource  
2           guide described in section 4(b) of the Smart  
3           Transportation Advancement and Transition  
4           Act; and

5           “(D) through the appropriate office of the  
6           Department, help respond to requests for as-  
7           sistance, advice, or consultation from States  
8           and local communities as a result of the re-  
9           source guide described in section 4(b) of the  
10          Smart Transportation Advancement and Tran-  
11          sition Act.

12          “(4) MEETINGS.—The Committee—

13                 “(A) shall convene not less frequently than  
14                 twice each year; and

15                 “(B) may convene with the use of remote  
16                 video conference technology.

17          “(5) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may provide  
18          to the Committee personnel or expertise from the  
19          Department to assist the Committee in carrying out  
20          the duties of the Committee.

21          “(6) REPORT.—Not later than February 1 of  
22          each year beginning after the date of enactment of  
23          the Smart Transportation Advancement and Transi-  
24          tion Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Commit-  
25          tees on Appropriations, Commerce, Science, and



1       Transportation, and Environment and Public Works  
 2       of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations  
 3       and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House  
 4       of Representatives a report that includes—

5               “(A) the recommendations made by the  
 6               Committee during the preceding calendar year;

7               “(B) an explanation of how the Secretary  
 8               has implemented those recommendations; and

9               “(C) for any recommendation not imple-  
 10              mented, an explanation of the reasons for not  
 11              implementing the recommendation.

12             “(7) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY  
 13             COMMITTEE ACT.—The Committee shall be subject  
 14             to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C.  
 15             App.).”.

16 **SEC. 3. REPORT ON LOCAL ENGAGEMENT.**

17       Not later than 150 days after the date of enactment  
 18 of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of  
 19 Transportation, in coordination with the advisory com-  
 20 mittee established under section 5305(h) of SAFETEA-  
 21 LU (23 U.S.C. 512 note; Public Law 109–59), shall sub-  
 22 mit to the Committees on Appropriations, Commerce,  
 23 Science, and Transportation, and Environment and Public  
 24 Works of the Senate and the Committees on Appropria-  
 25 tions and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House

1 of Representatives a report on efforts by the Department  
2 of Transportation to engage with local communities, met-  
3 ropolitan planning organizations, regional transportation  
4 commissions, and multijurisdictional groups, including in  
5 rural areas, on advancing data and intelligent transpor-  
6 tation systems technologies and other smart cities solu-  
7 tions.

8 **SEC. 4. SMART COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE.**

9 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The term “advi-  
11 sory committee” means the advisory committee es-  
12 tablished under section 5305(h) of SAFETEA-LU  
13 (23 U.S.C. 512 note; Public Law 109–59).

14 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
15 the Secretary of Transportation.

16 (3) SMART COMMUNITY.—The term “smart  
17 community” means a community that uses innova-  
18 tive technologies, data, analytics, and other means to  
19 improve the community and address local challenges.

20 (4) SMART COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE.—  
21 The term “smart community resource guide” means  
22 the resource guide created, published, and main-  
23 tained under subsection (b).

24 (b) RESOURCE GUIDE.—The Secretary, in consulta-  
25 tion with the advisory committee, shall create, publish,

1 and maintain a resource guide that is designed to assist  
2 States and local communities in developing and imple-  
3 menting intelligent transportation technology or smart  
4 community transportation programs.

5 (c) INCLUSIONS.—The smart community resource  
6 guide may include—

7 (1) a compilation of existing related Federal  
8 and non-Federal programs that are available to  
9 States and local communities in developing and im-  
10 plementing smart community transportation pro-  
11 grams, including technical assistance, education,  
12 training, research and development, analysis, and  
13 funding;

14 (2) available examples of States and local com-  
15 munities engaging private sector entities to carry out  
16 smart community transportation solutions, including  
17 public-private partnership models that could be used  
18 to leverage private sector funding to solve local chal-  
19 lenges;

20 (3) available examples of proven methods for  
21 States and local communities to facilitate the inte-  
22 gration of smart community transportation tech-  
23 nologies with, or within, new and existing infrastruc-  
24 ture and systems;

1           (4) best practices and lessons learned from  
2 smart community transportation demonstration  
3 projects, including information on return on invest-  
4 ment and performance, to help other States and  
5 local communities to decide how to begin the inte-  
6 gration of smart community transportation tech-  
7 nologies; and

8           (5) other topics—

9                 (A) as requested by industry entities,  
10 States, or local governments; or

11                 (B) as determined to be necessary by the  
12 Secretary and the advisory committee.

13         (d) USE OF EXISTING GUIDES.—In creating, pub-  
14 lishing, and maintaining the smart community resource  
15 guide, the Secretary shall consider existing Federal, State,  
16 and local community information, guides, and other re-  
17 sources that relate to smart community transportation  
18 goals, activities, and best practices—

19                 (1) to prevent duplication of efforts by the Fed-  
20 eral Government;

21                 (2) to improve local accessibility to Federal pro-  
22 grams; and

23                 (3) to leverage existing, complementary efforts.

24         (e) OUTREACH.—The Secretary, with input from the  
25 advisory committee at the determination of the Secretary,

1 shall conduct outreach to States, counties, local commu-  
2 nities, and other relevant entities—

3 (1) to provide interested stakeholders with the  
4 smart community resource guide, including through  
5 publication of the guide on the internet;

6 (2) to promote the consideration of smart com-  
7 munity transportation technologies;

8 (3) to encourage States and local governments  
9 to contribute smart community transportation pro-  
10 gram and activity information to the smart commu-  
11 nity resource guide;

12 (4) to identify—

13 (A) barriers to the adoption of smart com-  
14 munity transportation technologies; and

15 (B) any research, development, and other  
16 assistance that is needed that could be included  
17 in the smart community resource guide; and

18 (5) for other purposes, as identified by the Sec-  
19 retary or the advisory committee.

20 (f) REVISION.—The Secretary and the advisory com-  
21 mittee shall issue a revised smart community resource  
22 guide not less frequently than once every 3 years.

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