

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2901

To require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a pilot program to improve the integration of real-time wildfire hazard alerts with State and local transportation closure information systems, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 18 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 16), 2025

Mr. SHEEHY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a pilot program to improve the integration of real-time wildfire hazard alerts with State and local transportation closure information systems, 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 “Safer Emergency and
5 Evacuation Routes Response Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM.**

7 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Transpor-
8 tation (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”), in

1 coordination with the Administrator of the National Oce-
2 anic and Atmospheric Administration and the Chief of the
3 Forest Service, shall establish a voluntary pilot program
4 (referred to in this section as the “pilot program”) to im-
5 prove the integration of real-time wildfire hazard alerts
6 with State and local transportation closure information
7 systems.

8 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the pilot program
9 shall be to assist participating States in automatically re-
10 laying information on roadway closures, detours, and evac-
11 uation routes to drivers during wildfire events by linking
12 existing National Weather Service hazard alert products
13 with State and local traffic management and traveler in-
14 formation systems.

15 (c) SCOPE.—

16 (1) VOLUNTARY.—Participation in the pilot
17 program shall be voluntary.

18 (2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this
19 section grants the Secretary or the Administrator of
20 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-
21 tion any authority to make or direct roadway closure
22 decisions.

23 (3) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall en-
24 sure that the pilot program—

1 (A) uses existing data standards and for-
2 mats to the maximum extent practicable;

3 (B) does not require States to adopt uni-
4 form systems or centralized infrastructure; and

5 (C) allows participating States flexibility to
6 tailor integration to their existing traffic man-
7 agement systems.

8 (d) FUNDING.—The Secretary may carry out the
9 pilot program using amounts otherwise available for sur-
10 face transportation research and development under sec-
11 tion 503(b) of title 23, United States Code.

12 (e) EVALUATION.—Not later than 2 years after im-
13 plementation of the pilot program, the Secretary shall sub-
14 mit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
15 portation of the Senate and the Committee on Transpor-
16 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
17 a report evaluating the pilot program and the effectiveness
18 of the pilot program in improving the timeliness and accu-
19 racy of wildfire-related driver notifications.

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