

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3556

To reauthorize and improve the wildlife crossings program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 17, 2025

Ms. ALSOBROOKS (for herself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. CURTIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To reauthorize and improve the wildlife crossings program,
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 “Wildlife Crossings Pro-
5 gram Reauthorization Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. WILDLIFE CROSSINGS PROGRAM.**

7 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
9 appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other
10 than the Mass Transit Account) for the wildlife

1 crossings program under section 171 of title 23,
 2 United States Code, \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal
 3 years 2027 through 2031.

4 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Notwithstanding any other
 5 provision of law, amounts made available under
 6 paragraph (1) shall be available until expended.

7 (b) WILDLIFE CROSSINGS PROGRAM.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 171 of title 23,
 9 United States Code, is amended—

10 (A) in the section heading, by striking

11 **“pilot”**;

12 (B) by striking “pilot” each place it ap-
 13 pears;

14 (C) by redesignating subsections (h) and

15 (i) as subsections (k) and (l), respectively; and

16 (D) by inserting after subsection (g) the
 17 following:

18 “(h) FEDERAL SHARE FOR SMALL, RURAL, AND DIS-

19 ADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),

21 in the case of a grant under the program provided

22 to an eligible entity for the benefit of a small, rural,

23 or disadvantaged community, the Federal share of

24 the cost of the project shall be 90 percent.

1 “(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may increase the
 2 Federal share under paragraph (1) to 100 percent
 3 if the Secretary determines that the eligible entity is
 4 unable to pay, or would experience significant finan-
 5 cial hardship if required to pay, the non-Federal
 6 share.

7 “(i) TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may use an
 9 amount equal to not more than 0.5 percent of the
 10 amounts made available to carry out the program
 11 for each fiscal year to improve the ability of eligible
 12 entities described in subsection (c)(6) to access fund-
 13 ing for projects under the program in an efficient
 14 and expeditious manner by providing to those enti-
 15 ties application assistance, technical assistance, and
 16 assistance in reducing the period of time between
 17 the selection of the project and the obligation of
 18 funds for the project.

19 “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts used under
 20 paragraph (1) may be expended—

21 “(A) by the Secretary; or

22 “(B) through contracts with—

23 “(i) a Federal, Tribal, regional, or
 24 State government entity;

25 “(ii) a private entity; or

1 “(iii) a nonprofit entity.

2 “(j) GRANT ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary may
3 retain not more than a total of 0.5 percent of the amounts
4 made available to carry out the program for each fiscal
5 year—

6 “(1) to review applications for grants under the
7 program;

8 “(2) to obligate and administer grant awards
9 selected under the program; and

10 “(3) to carry out the requirements of—

11 “(A) section 172; and

12 “(B) subsections (b)(6) and (i)(3) of sec-
13 tion 144.”.

14 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for
15 chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amend-
16 ed by striking the item relating to section 171 and
17 inserting the following:

“171. Wildlife crossings program.”.

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