

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2285

To amend title 23, United States Code, to authorize a pilot program within the nationally significant freight and highway projects program to increase State infrastructure investments, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 25, 2019

Mr. BRAUN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To amend title 23, United States Code, to authorize a pilot program within the nationally significant freight and highway projects program to increase State infrastructure investments, 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 “Crossroads of America
5 Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. STATE INCENTIVES PILOT PROGRAM.**

7 Section 117 of title 23, United States Code, is
8 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (d)(1), in the matter pre-
 2 ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “subsection
 3 (e)” and inserting “subsections (e) and (o)”;

4 (2) in subsection (g), in the matter preceding
 5 paragraph (1), by striking “subsection (e)” and in-
 6 serting “subsections (e) and (o)”;

7 (3) in subsection (j)—

8 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “The
 9 Federal” and inserting “Except for a grant
 10 under subsection (o), the Federal”; and

11 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “Federal
 12 assistance other” and inserting “Except for a
 13 grant under subsection (o), Federal assistance
 14 other”; and

15 (4) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(o) STATE INCENTIVES PILOT PROGRAM.—

17 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a
 18 pilot program to award grants to eligible applicants
 19 for projects eligible for grants under this section (re-
 20 ferred to in this subsection as the ‘pilot program’).

21 “(2) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under the
 22 pilot program, the Secretary shall give priority to an
 23 application that offers a greater non-Federal share
 24 of the cost of a project relative to other applications
 25 under the pilot program.

1 “(3) FEDERAL SHARE.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any
3 other provision of law, the Federal share of the
4 cost of a project assisted with a grant under the
5 pilot program may not exceed 50 percent.

6 “(B) NO FEDERAL INVOLVEMENT.—

7 “(i) IN GENERAL.—For grants award-
8 ed under the pilot program, except as pro-
9 vided in clause (ii), an eligible applicant
10 may not use Federal assistance to satisfy
11 the non-Federal share of the cost under
12 subparagraph (A).

13 “(ii) EXCEPTION.—An eligible appli-
14 cant may use funds from a secured loan
15 (as defined in section 601(a)) to satisfy the
16 non-Federal share of the cost under sub-
17 paragraph (A) if the loan is repayable from
18 non-Federal funds.

19 “(4) RESERVATION.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts made
21 available to provide grants under this section,
22 the Secretary shall reserve for each fiscal year
23 \$150,000,000 to provide grants under the pilot
24 program.

“(B) UNUTILIZED AMOUNTS.—In any fiscal year during which applications under this subsection are insufficient to effect an award or allocation of the entire amount reserved under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall use the unutilized amounts to provide other grants under this section.

“(5) SET-ASIDES.—

“(A) SMALL PROJECTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts reserved under paragraph (4)(A), the Secretary shall reserve for each fiscal year not less than 10 percent for projects eligible for a grant under subsection (e).

“(ii) REQUIREMENT.—For a grant awarded from the amount reserved under clause (i)—

“(I) the requirements of subsection (e) shall apply; and

“(II) the requirements of subsection (g) shall not apply.

“(B) RURAL PROJECTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts reserved under paragraph (4)(A), the Secretary shall reserve for each fiscal year not

1 less than 25 percent for projects eligible
2 for a grant under subsection (i).

3 “(ii) REQUIREMENT.—For a grant
4 awarded from the amount reserved under
5 clause (i), the requirements of subsection
6 (i) shall apply.

7 “(6) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 2
8 years after the date of enactment of this subsection,
9 the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on En-
10 vironment and Public Works of the Senate and the
11 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
12 the House of Representatives a report that describes
13 the administration of the pilot program, including—

14 “(A) the number, types, and locations of
15 eligible applicants that have applied for grants
16 under the pilot program;

17 “(B) the number, types, and locations of
18 grant recipients under the pilot program;

19 “(C) an assessment of whether implemen-
20 tation of the pilot program has incentivized eli-
21 gible applicants to offer a greater non-Federal
22 share for grants under the pilot program; and

23 “(D) any recommendations for modifica-
24 tions to the pilot program.”.

○