

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1739

To authorize grants to improve security on over-the-road buses.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 28, 2001

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

A BILL

To authorize grants to improve security on over-the-road buses.

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. EMERGENCY OVER-THE-ROAD BUS SECURITY**
4 **ASSISTANCE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 311 of
6 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
7 end the following:

8 **“§ 31109. Over-the-road bus security grant program**

9 **“(a) IN GENERAL.—**

10 **“(1) FUND ESTABLISHED.—**The Secretary of
11 **the Treasury shall establish an Over-the-road Bus**

1 Security Fund account in the Treasury into which
 2 the Secretary of the Transportation shall deposit
 3 amounts appropriated under paragraph (2).

4 “(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

5 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
 6 retary of Transportation \$200,000,000 for fiscal
 7 year 2002, and \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 2003,
 8 for deposit into the account established under para-
 9 graph (1). Amounts deposited into the account shall
 10 remain available until expended.

11 “(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—Without further appropria-
 12 tion, amounts in the Over-the-road Bus Security Fund ac-
 13 count are available to the Secretary of Transportation for
 14 direct grants to persons engaged in the business of pro-
 15 viding over-the-road bus transportation for system-wide
 16 security upgrades, including the reimbursement of ex-
 17 traordinary security-related costs determined by the Sec-
 18 retary to have been incurred by such operators since Sep-
 19 tember 11, 2001, including—

20 “(1) establishing an emergency communications
 21 and notification system linked to law enforcement or
 22 emergency response personnel;

23 “(2) protecting or isolating the driver;

24 “(3) implementing and operating passenger
 25 screening programs at terminals and on over-the-

1 road buses (as defined in section 3038(a)(3) of the
2 Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (49
3 U.S.C. 5310 nt));

4 “(4) acquiring, upgrading, installing, or oper-
5 ating equipment, software, or accessorial services for
6 collection, storage, or exchange of passenger and
7 driver information through ticketing systems or oth-
8 erwise, and information links with government agen-
9 cies;

10 “(5) constructing or modifying terminals, ga-
11 rages, facilities, or over-the-road buses to assure
12 their security;

13 “(6) training employees in recognizing and re-
14 sponding to terrorist threats, evacuation procedures,
15 passenger screening procedures, and baggage inspec-
16 tion;

17 “(7) hiring and training security officers;

18 “(8) installing cameras and video surveillance
19 equipment on over-the-road buses and at terminals,
20 garages and over-the-road bus facilities; and

21 “(9) creating a program for employee identifica-
22 tion and background investigation.

23 “(c) APPLICATIONS.—To receive a grant under sub-
24 section (b), an applicant shall submit an application, at
25 such time, in such manner, in such form, and containing

1 such information, as the Secretary may require, and a
 2 plan that meets the requirements of subsection (c) for the
 3 project to be funded, in whole or in part, by the grant.

4 “(d) PLAN REQUIRED.—The Secretary may not
 5 make a grant under subsection (b) for a system-wide secu-
 6 rity upgrade project until the applicant has submitted to
 7 the Secretary, and the Secretary has approved, a plan for
 8 the project, and the applicant has submitted to the Sec-
 9 retary such additional information as the Secretary may
 10 require in order to ensure full accountability for the obli-
 11 gation or expenditure of grant amounts.

12 “(e) FEDERAL STANDARDS.—Section 5333 of this
 13 title applies to any work financed with a grant under this
 14 section to the same extent as if it were financed with a
 15 grant under chapter 53 of this title. The application of
 16 that section does not affect or discharge any other respon-
 17 sibility of the Secretary under this title with respect to
 18 work financed by a grant under this section.”.

19 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

20 (1) The chapter analysis for chapter 311 of title
 21 49, United States Code, is amended—

22 (A) by striking “STATE” in the heading for
 23 subchapter I; and

24 (B) by inserting after the item relating to
 25 section 31108 the following:

“31109. Over-the-road bus security grant program.”.

1 **SEC. 2. BUS SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation
 3 may use not less than \$3,000,000 and not more than
 4 \$5,000,000 of the amounts deposited in the Over-the-road
 5 Bus Security Fund account established under section
 6 31109 of title 49, United States Code, for research and
 7 development of security recommendations for over-the-
 8 road buses (as defined in section 3038(a)(3) of the Trans-
 9 portation Equity Act for the 21st Century (49 U.S.C.
 10 5310 nt)), including—

11 (1) a review of actions already taken to address
 12 identified security issues by both public and private
 13 entities;

14 (2) research on engine shut-off mechanisms,
 15 chemical and biological weapon detection technology,
 16 and the feasibility of compartmentalization of the
 17 driver; and

18 (3) compilation, review, and dissemination of
 19 industry best practices.

20 (b) CONSULTATION WITH INDUSTRY, LABOR, AND
 21 OTHER GROUPS.—In carrying out this section, the Sec-
 22 retary shall consult with over-the-road bus management
 23 and labor representatives, public safety and law enforce-
 24 ment officials, and the National Academy of Sciences.

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