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111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1997

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to update a research report and issue guidance to the States with respect to reducing lighting on the Federal-aid system during periods of low traffic density, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2009

Mr. GERLACH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Science and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to update a research report and issue guidance to the States with respect to reducing lighting on the Federal-aid system during periods of low traffic density, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RESEARCH AND GUIDANCE WITH RESPECT TO REDUCING LIGHTING ON THE FEDERAL-AID SYSTEM DURING PERIODS OF LOW TRAFFIC DENSITY.

(a) UPDATE OF RESEARCH REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, acting through the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration and in cooperation with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, shall update the research report of the Federal Highway Administration entitled ''Reduced Lighting On Freeways During Periods Of Low Traffic Density'', FHWA/RD–86/018, August 1985.

(2) ISSUES TO ADDRESS IN UPDATE.—In updating the report described in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall address, with respect to the Federal-aid system, the following:

(A) The optimal times and conditions for reducing lighting.

(B) The appropriate lighting levels for various roads and road features.

(C) The appropriate manner in which to carry out reducing lighting.

(D) The energy savings and reduction in greenhouse gases that may result from reducing lighting.

(E) Any legal issues relating to reducing lighting, including the development of such issues since the release of the report described in paragraph (1).

(b) GUIDANCE TO STATES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue guidance to the States with respect to reducing lighting on the Federal-aid system during periods of low traffic density. The Secretary shall base such guidance on the updated research report completed in accordance with subsection (a).

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) FEDERAL-AID SYSTEM.—The term ''Federal-aid system'' has the meaning given such term in section 101(6) of title 23, United States Code.

(2) STATE.—The term ''State'' has the meaning given such term in section 101(32) of title 23, United States Code.

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