ROUTE 66 CENTENNIAL COMMISSION ACT

JULY 23, 2019.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. BARRASSO, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1014]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Environment and Public Works, to which was referred the bill (S. 1014) to establish the Route 66 Centennial Commission, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

GENERAL STATEMENT AND BACKGROUND

U.S. Highway 66, better known as Route 66 or the Mother Road, provided a critical link between the Midwest and Southern California. Route 66 initially spanned 2,448 miles. It was designated, along with the other original U.S. highways, by the American Association of State Highway Officials and the Bureau of Public Roads in 1926. Route 66 will celebrate its centennial anniversary in 2026.

S. 1014 establishes the Route 66 Centennial Commission (Commission) to study and make recommendations to Congress on how to best commemorate Route 66 on its 100th anniversary. The bill directs the Commission to: develop a list of, and carry out such activities as the Commission determines to be appropriate to honor Route 66 on the occasion of its centennial anniversary; provide advice and assistance to federal, state, and local governmental agencies and civic groups in carrying out activities to honor Route 66 on the occasion of its centennial anniversary; recommend activities that may be carried out by the federal government to honor Route 66 on the occasion of its centennial anniversary; and submit reports to Congress.
OBJECTIVES OF THE LEGISLATION

The objectives of S. 1014 are to honor and commemorate Route 66 on the occasion of its centennial anniversary by establishing the Route 66 Centennial Commission.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Short title
This section states that this Act may be cited as the “Route 66 Centennial Commission Act”.

Section 2. Findings
This section makes Congressional findings regarding the historical significance of Route 66, and the need to establish a commission to study and recommend in a report to Congress activities that are fitting and proper to celebrate its centennial anniversary.

Section 3. Establishment
This section establishes the Route 66 Centennial Commission.

Section 4. Duties
This section sets forth the duties of the Commission.

Section 5. Membership
This section sets forth the membership of the Commission.

Section 6. Director and staff
This section grants the Commission the authority to appoint and fix the pay of a director, and outlines the applicability of certain civil service laws to the director and staff.

Section 7. Powers
This section sets forth the powers of the Commission.

Section 8. Reports
This section sets forth reporting requirements of the Commission.

Section 9. Termination
This section states that the Commission shall terminate not later than June 30, 2027.

Section 10. Clarification regarding funding
This section clarifies that no additional funds are authorized to carry out the requirements of this Act. This section also clarifies the use of existing funds to carry out this Act.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

On April 4, 2019, Senator Duckworth introduced S. 1014, the Route 66 Centennial Commission Act, with Senator Inhofe as an original cosponsor. The bill was read twice and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. The Committee met on June 19, 2019, and ordered S. 1014 favorably reported by voice vote.
HEARINGS

No legislative hearings were held by the Committee on Environment and Public Works to consider S. 1014.

ROLLCALL VOTES

On June 19, 2019, the Committee on Environment and Public Works met to consider S. 1014. The bill was ordered favorably reported by voice vote. No roll call votes were taken.

REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

In compliance with section 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee finds that S. 1014 does not create any additional regulatory burdens, nor will it cause any adverse impact on the personal privacy of individuals.

MANDATES ASSESSMENT

In compliance with the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–4), the Committee notes that the Congressional Budget Office found that S. 1014 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates.

COST OF LEGISLATION

Section 403 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act requires that a statement of the cost of the reported bill, prepared by the Congressional Budget Office, be included in the report. That statement follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,

Hon. JOHN BARRASSO,
Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for S. 1014, the Route 66 Centennial Commission Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Matthew Pickford.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director.

Enclosure.
S. 1014 would establish a commission to study activities commemorating the centennial of U.S. Route 66. The commission would consist of 15 members, who would serve without pay but would be reimbursed for travel expenses. The bill would authorize the commission to hold hearings, hire staff, and collect information from federal agencies. The commission would submit a final report to the Congress within five years and would terminate by June 30, 2027. Under the bill, the commission could retain and spend gifts.

The bill would not authorize the appropriation of additional funds to carry out those activities. Instead, S. 1014 would direct the Department of Transportation (DOT) to identify unneeded funds from an existing appropriation for that purpose.

To support the commission, CBO expects that DOT would identify funds that have been appropriated but not otherwise spent. Based on the cost of similar commissions and reports to the Congress, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would increase direct spending by $7 million over the 2020–2029 period, mostly to pay for staff to support the commission.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

### CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

Section 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate requires the committee to publish changes in existing law made by the bill as reported. Passage of this bill will make no changes to existing law.