

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 483

To fully fund the construction of the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 20, 1997

Mr. ROBB (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To fully fund the construction of the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge.

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 “Woodrow Wilson Me-
5 morial Bridge Full Funding Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) traffic congestion imposes serious economic
9 burdens on the metropolitan Washington, D.C.,

1 area, costing each commuter an estimated \$1,000
2 per year;

3 (2) the volume of traffic in the metropolitan
4 Washington, D.C., area is expected to increase by
5 more than 70 percent between 1990 and 2020;

6 (3) the deterioration of the Woodrow Wilson
7 Memorial Bridge and the growing population of the
8 metropolitan Washington, D.C., area contribute sig-
9 nificantly to traffic congestion;

10 (4) the Bridge serves as a vital link in the
11 Interstate System and in the Northeast corridor;

12 (5) identifying alternative methods for main-
13 taining this vital link of the Interstate System is
14 critical to addressing the traffic congestion of the
15 area;

16 (6) the Bridge is—

17 (A) the only drawbridge in the metropoli-
18 tan Washington, D.C., area on the Interstate
19 System;

20 (B) the only segment of the Capital Belt-
21 way with only 6 lanes; and

22 (C) the only segment of the Capital Belt-
23 way with a remaining expected life of less than
24 10 years;

1 (7) the Bridge is the only part of the Interstate
2 System owned by the Federal Government;

3 (8)(A) the Bridge was constructed by the Fed-
4 eral Government;

5 (B) prior to the date of enactment of this Act,
6 the Federal Government has contributed 100 per-
7 cent of the cost of building and rehabilitating the
8 Bridge; and

9 (C) the Federal Government has a continuing
10 responsibility to fund future costs associated with
11 the upgrading of the Interstate Route 95 crossing,
12 including the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the
13 Bridge; and

14 (9) the Federal Government should provide full
15 funding for construction of the replacement Bridge.

16 **SEC. 3. FULL FUNDING OF BRIDGE.**

17 (a) INTERCHANGES.—Section 404(5)(F) of the
18 Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge Authority Act of 1995
19 (Public Law 104–59; 109 Stat. 629) is amended by insert-
20 ing “interchange,” after “roadway,”.

21 (b) FUNDING.—Section 104(i) of title 23, United
22 States Code, is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “From” and
24 all that follows through “final engineering” and in-
25 serting “The Secretary shall obligate sums made

1 available under paragraph (3) for final engineering
2 and construction”; and

3 (2) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

5 There are authorized to be appropriated out of the
6 Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit
7 Account) for fiscal years 1998 through 2004 such
8 sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection.”.

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