105TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

## S. 975

To amend title 23, United States Code, to extend the bridge discretionary program, and for other purposes.

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

June 27, 1997

Mr. Bond 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 extend the bridge discretionary program, 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 "Safe Bridges Act of
- 5 1997".
- 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
- 7 Congress finds that—
- 8 (1) bridges are important and necessary compo-
- 9 nents of the surface transportation system of the
- 10 United States;

1	(2) bridges are an important factor in the effi-
2	cient movement of people and goods;
3	(3) properly maintained and constructed
4	bridges help save lives;
5	(4) more than 25 percent of the bridges on the
6	Interstate System are classified as deficient or in
7	poor condition; and
8	(5) an investment of more than \$5,000,000,000
9	annually is needed to maintain the bridges that are
10	in existence as of the date of enactment of this Act.
11	SEC. 3. BRIDGE DISCRETIONARY PROGRAM.
12	(a) Extension of Program.—Section 144(g) of
13	title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking para-
14	graph (1) and inserting the following:
15	"(1) Discretionary bridge program.—
16	"(A) Set aside.—For each fiscal year, be-
17	fore any apportionment is made under sub-
18	section (e), the Secretary shall set aside
19	\$500,000,000 from the funds authorized to
20	carry out this section.
21	"(B) Use of set aside.—The amount set
22	aside under subparagraph (A) shall be available
23	for obligation in the same manner and to the
24	same extent as the sums apportioned under
25	subsection (e), except that—

1	"(i) the amount shall be available for
2	obligation at the discretion of the Sec-
3	retary;
4	"(ii) for each fiscal year, \$8,500,000
5	of the amount shall be available to carry
6	out section 144A;
7	"(iii) for each fiscal year, \$12,500,000
8	of the amount shall be available to carry
9	out section 144B;
10	"(iv) for each fiscal year, \$15,000,000
11	of the amount shall be available to carry
12	out section 144C; and
13	"(v) the remainder of the amount
14	shall be available in accordance with para-
15	graph (2).
16	"(C) OTHER STATE FUNDS.—Funds made
17	available to a State under subparagraph (B)
18	shall not be considered in determining the ap-
19	portionments and allocations that the State
20	shall be entitled to receive, under the other pro-
21	visions of this title and other law, of amounts
22	in the Highway Trust Fund.".
23	(b) Highway Timber Bridge Research and Con-
24	STRUCTION PROGRAM.—

1	(1) Transfer to title 23.—Section 1039 of
2	the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency
3	Act of 1991 (23 U.S.C. 144 note; 105 Stat. 1990)
4	is—
5	(A) transferred to title 23, United States
6	Code;
7	(B) redesignated as section 144A of that
8	title; and
9	(C) inserted after section 144 of that title.
10	(2) Conforming amendments.—
11	(A) Section 144A of title 23, United States
12	Code (as added by paragraph (1)), is amend-
13	ed—
14	(i) by striking the section heading and
15	inserting the following:
16	"§ 144A. Highway timber bridge research and con-
17	struction program";
18	(ii) in subsection (e)—
19	(I) by striking "of title 23, Unit-
20	ed States Code, for each of fiscal
21	years 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996,
22	and 1997" and inserting "for each of
23	fiscal years 1998 through 2003"; and

1	(II) in paragraph (2), by striking
2	" $(\$7,000,000)$ in the case of fiscal year
3	1992)"; and
4	(iii) by striking subsection (f).
5	(B) The analysis for chapter 1 of title 23,
6	United States Code, is amended by inserting
7	after the item relating to section 144 the follow-
8	ing:
	"144A. Highway timber bridge research and construction program.".
9	SEC. 4. INNOVATIVE HIGHWAY STEEL BRIDGE RESEARCH
10	AND CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.
11	(a) In General.—Chapter 1 of title 23, United
12	States Code, is amended by inserting after section 144A
13	(as added by section $3(b)(1)$ ) the following:
14	"§ 144B. Innovative highway steel bridge research
15	and construction program
	and construction program  "(a) Research Grants.—The Secretary shall make
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16 17	"(a) Research Grants.—The Secretary shall make
16 17 18	"(a) Research Grants.—The Secretary shall make grants to other Federal agencies, universities, private
16 17 18 19	"(a) Research Grants.—The Secretary shall make grants to other Federal agencies, universities, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and research or engi-
16 17 18 19 20	"(a) Research Grants.—The Secretary shall make grants to other Federal agencies, universities, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and research or engineering entities to carry out research concerning—
116 117 118 119 220 221	"(a) Research Grants.—The Secretary shall make grants to other Federal agencies, universities, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and research or engineering entities to carry out research concerning—  "(1) the development of new, cost-effective
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	"(a) Research Grants.—The Secretary shall make grants to other Federal agencies, universities, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and research or engineering entities to carry out research concerning—  "(1) the development of new, cost-effective highway steel bridge applications;
115 116 117 118 119 220 221 222 223 224	"(a) Research Grants.—The Secretary shall make grants to other Federal agencies, universities, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and research or engineering entities to carry out research concerning—  "(1) the development of new, cost-effective highway steel bridge applications;  "(2) the development of engineering design cri-

1	"(3) the development of highway steel bridges
2	and structures that will withstand natural disasters;
3	"(4) the development of products, materials,
4	and systems for use in highway steel bridges that
5	demonstrate new alternatives to current processes
6	and procedures with respect to performance in var-
7	ious environments; and
8	"(5) rehabilitation measures that demonstrate
9	effective, safe, and reliable methods for the use of
10	steel in rehabilitating highway bridges and struc-
11	tures.
12	"(b) Technology and Information Transfer.—
13	The Secretary shall take such action as is necessary to
14	ensure that the information and technology resulting from
15	research conducted under subsection (a) is made available
16	to State and local transportation departments and other
17	interests as specified by the Secretary.
18	"(c) Construction Grants.—
19	"(1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall make
20	grants to States for projects for the construction of
21	steel bridges and structures on Federal-aid high-
22	ways.
23	"(2) Applications.—

1	"(A) Submission.—A State that desires
2	to receive a grant under this subsection shall
3	submit an application to the Secretary.
4	"(B) Contents.—The application shall be
5	in such form and contain such information as
6	the Secretary may require by regulation.
7	"(3) Approval Criteria.—The Secretary shall
8	select and approve applications for grants under this
9	subsection based on whether the project that is the
10	subject of the grant—
11	"(A) has a design that has both initial and
12	long-term structural integrity;
13	"(B) has an innovative design, product,
14	material, or system that has the potential for
15	increasing knowledge, cost effectiveness, dura-
16	bility, and future use of the innovation; and
17	"(C) uses practices and construction tech-
18	niques that comply with all environmental regu-
19	lations.
20	"(d) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the
21	cost of a research or construction project under this sec-
22	tion shall be 80 percent.
23	"(e) Funding.—

1	"(1) In general.—From the funds reserved
2	from apportionment under section $144(g)(1)$ for
3	each of fiscal years 1998 through 2003—
4	"(A) $$2,500,000$ shall be available to the
5	Secretary to carry out subsections (a) and (b);
6	and
7	"(B) \$10,000,000 shall be available to the
8	Secretary to carry out subsection (c).
9	"(2) Availability.—Sums made available
10	under paragraph (1) shall remain available until ex-
11	pended.".
12	(b) Conforming Amendment.—The analysis for
13	chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by
14	inserting after the item relating to section 144A (as added
15	by section 3(b)(2)(B)) the following:
	"144B. Innovative highway steel bridge research and construction program.".
16	SEC. 5. CARBON COMPOSITE BRIDGE RETROFIT RESEARCH
17	AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.
18	(a) In General.—Chapter 1 of title 23, United
19	States Code, is amended by inserting after section 144B
20	(as added by section 4(a)) the following:
21	"§ 144C. Carbon composite bridge retrofit research
22	and demonstration program
	and demonstration program
23	"(a) Research Grants.—The Secretary shall make

1	engineering entities, in the United States, to carry out re-
2	search concerning—
3	"(1) the development of new, economical carbon
4	composite highway bridge retrofit systems;
5	"(2) the development of engineering design cri-
6	teria for carbon composite products for use in high-
7	way bridges in order to improve methods for charac-
8	terizing carbon composite design properties;
9	"(3) deployment systems for the incorporation
10	of carbon composites that demonstrate alternative
11	processes for the seismic retrofit of bridges and the
12	rehabilitation of structurally deficient bridge struc-
13	tures;
14	"(4) alternative carbon composite transpor-
15	tation system structures that demonstrate the devel-
16	opment of applications for lighting support, sound
17	barriers, culverts, and retaining walls in highway in-
18	frastructure; and
19	"(5) additional rehabilitation measures that
20	demonstrate effective, safe, and reliable methods for
21	rehabilitating highway infrastructure with carbon
22	composites.
23	"(b) Technology and Information Transfer.—
24	The Secretary shall take such action as is necessary to

ensure that the information and technology resulting from

1	research conducted under subsection (a) is made available
2	to State and local transportation departments and other
3	interests as specified by the Secretary.
4	"(c) Construction Grants.—
5	"(1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall make
6	grants to States for projects for the reconstruction
7	or seismic retrofit of bridges on the National High-
8	way System.
9	"(2) Applications.—
10	"(A) Submission.—A State that desires
11	to receive a grant under this subsection shall
12	submit an application to the Secretary.
13	"(B) Contents.—The application shall be
14	in such form and contain such information as
15	the Secretary may require by regulation.
16	"(3) Approval Criteria.—The Secretary shall
17	select and approve applications for grants under this
18	subsection based on whether the project that is the
19	subject of the grant—
20	"(A) has a design that has both initial and
21	long-term structural and environmental integ-
22	rity;
23	"(B) has a design that uses carbon com-
24	posite materials;

1	"(C) has an innovative design that has the
2	potential for increasing knowledge, cost effec-
3	tiveness, and future use of the design;
4	"(D) will ensure the structural integrity of
5	a major river crossing in the New Madrid re-
6	gion during a seismic event;
7	"(E) will extend the service life of a struc-
8	turally deficient bridge by at least 15 years; and
9	"(F) uses bridge retrofit technology and
10	material that are produced in the United
11	States.
12	"(d) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the
13	cost of a research or construction project under this sec-
14	tion shall be 80 percent.
15	"(e) Funding.—
16	"(1) In general.—From the funds reserved
17	from apportionment under section $144(g)(1)$ for
18	each of fiscal years 1998 through 2003—
19	"(A) \$1,000,000 shall be available to the
20	Secretary to carry out subsections (a) and (b);
21	and
22	"(B) \$14,000,000 shall be available to the
23	Secretary to carry out subsection (c).

- 1 "(2) AVAILABILITY.—Sums made available
- 2 under paragraph (1) shall remain available until ex-
- pended.".
- 4 (b) Conforming Amendment.—The analysis for
- 5 chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by
- 6 inserting after the item relating to section 144B (as added
- 7 by section 4(b)) the following:

"144C. Carbon composite bridge retrofit research and demonstration program.".

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