S. 1150

To waive tolls on the Interstate System during peak holiday travel periods.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

June 29, 2001

Mr. Smith of New Hampshire introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To waive tolls on the Interstate System during peak holiday travel periods.

- 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 "Interstate Highway
- 5 System Toll-Free Holiday Act".
- 6 SEC. 2. WAIVER OF TOLLS ON THE INTERSTATE SYSTEM
- 7 DURING PEAK HOLIDAY TRAVEL PERIODS.
- 8 (a) Definitions.—In this section, the terms "Inter-
- 9 state System", "public authority", "Secretary", "State",
- 10 and "State transportation department" have the meanings

- $1\,\,$ given the terms in section 101(a) of title 23, United States
- 2 Code.

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- 3 (b) Waiver.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—No tolls shall be collected, and no vehicle shall be required to stop at a toll booth, for any toll highway, bridge, or tunnel on the Interstate System during any peak holiday travel period determined under paragraph (2).
 - (2) Peak holiday travel periods.—For the purposes of paragraph (1), the State transportation department or the public authority having jurisdiction over the toll highway, bridge, or tunnel shall determine the number and duration of peak holiday travel periods, which shall include, at a minimum, the 24-hour period of each legal public holiday specified in section 6103(a) of title 5, United States Code.

(c) Federal Reimbursement.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year, upon request by a State or public authority and approval by the Secretary, the Secretary shall reimburse the State or public authority for the amount of toll revenue not collected by reason of subsection (b).
- (2) Requests for reimbursement.—On or before September 30 of a fiscal year, each State or

- public authority that desires a refund described in paragraph (1) shall submit to the Secretary a request for reimbursement, based on actual traffic data, for the amount of toll revenue not collected by reason of subsection (b) during the fiscal year.
 - (3) Use of reimbursed funds.—A request for reimbursement under paragraph (2) shall include a certification by the State or public authority that the amount of the reimbursement will be used only for debt service or for operation and maintenance of the toll facility, including reconstruction, resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation.
 - (4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
 There are authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection.

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