

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 3833

To reauthorize surface transportation research programs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 27, 2012

Mr. HALL (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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 reauthorize surface transportation research programs,  
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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Driving Research through Innovative Viable Economic  
6 Solutions Act of 2012” or the “DRIVES Act of 2012”.

7 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
8 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 3. Surface transportation research.
- Sec. 4. Technology deployment.
- Sec. 5. Training and education.
- Sec. 6. Repeals.
- Sec. 7. Transportation research and development strategic planning.
- Sec. 8. Additional repeals.
- Sec. 9. Intelligent transportation systems.
- Sec. 10. Administrative authority.
- Sec. 11. University transportation centers.
- Sec. 12. Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

**1 SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The following amounts are au-  
 3 thorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust  
 4 Fund:

5 (1) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH.—  
 6 To carry out section 502 of title 23, United States  
 7 Code, \$141,750,000 for each of fiscal years 2013  
 8 through 2016.

9 (2) TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM.—To  
 10 carry out section 503 of title 23, United States  
 11 Code, \$60,750,000 for each of fiscal years 2013  
 12 through 2016.

13 (3) TRAINING AND EDUCATION.—To carry out  
 14 section 504 of title 23, United States Code,  
 15 \$25,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2013 through  
 16 2016.

17 (4) INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS  
 18 PROGRAM.—To carry out subtitle C of title V of  
 19 SAFETEA-LU, \$110,000,000 for each of fiscal  
 20 years 2013 through 2016.

1           (5) UNIVERSITY TRANSPORTATION CENTERS  
2       PROGRAM.—To carry out sections 5505, 5506, and  
3       5507 of title 49, United States Code, \$75,000,000  
4       for each of fiscal years 2013 through 2016.

5           (6) BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION STATIS-  
6       TICS.—To carry out section 111 of title 49, United  
7       States Code, \$27,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
8       2013 through 2016.

9       (b) APPLICABILITY OF TITLE 23.—Funds authorized  
10   to be appropriated by subsection (a) shall—

11           (1) be available for obligation in the same man-  
12       ner as if those funds were apportioned under chap-  
13       ter 1 of title 23, United States Code, except that the  
14       Federal share of the cost of a project or activity car-  
15       ried out using those funds shall be 80 percent, un-  
16       less otherwise expressly provided by this Act (includ-  
17       ing the amendments made by this Act) or otherwise  
18       determined by the Secretary;

19           (2) remain available until expended; and

20           (3) not be transferable.

21       (c) OBLIGATION CEILING.—Notwithstanding any  
22   other provision of law, the total of all obligations from  
23   amounts made available from the Highway Trust Fund  
24   by subsection (a) shall be \$440,000,000 for each of fiscal  
25   years 2013 through 2016.

1 **SEC. 3. SURFACE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH.**

2 Section 502 of title 23, United States Code, is  
3 amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) in paragraph (1)—

6 (i) by inserting “within the innovation  
7 lifecycle” after “activities”; and

8 (ii) by inserting “impact analysis,”  
9 after “training,”;

10 (B) in paragraph (2)—

11 (i) in subparagraph (B) by striking  
12 “supports research in which there is” and  
13 insert “delivers”;

14 (ii) in subparagraph (C) by striking  
15 “or” after the semicolon;

16 (iii) by redesignating subparagraph  
17 (D) as subparagraph (F); and

18 (iv) by inserting after subparagraph  
19 (C) the following:

20 “(D) presents the best means to align re-  
21 sources with multi-year plans and priorities;

22 “(E) ensures the coordination of highway  
23 research and technology transfer activities, in-  
24 cluding through activities performed by univer-  
25 sity transportation centers; or”;

(C) in paragraph (3) by striking subparagraphs (B) through (D) and inserting the following:

“(B) partner with State highway agencies and other stakeholders as appropriate, including international entities, to facilitate research and technology transfer activities;

“(C) communicate the results of ongoing and completed research;

“(D) lead efforts to coordinate national emphasis areas of highway research, technology, and innovation deployment; and

“(E) leverage partnerships with industry, academia, and international entities.”;

(D) in paragraph (4)(C) by striking “policy and planning” and inserting “all highway objectives seeking to improve the performance of the transportation system”;

(E) by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the following:

“(7) PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND EVALUATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—To the maximum extent practicable, all surface transportation research and development projects shall include a

1 component of performance measurement and  
2 evaluation.

3 “(B) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—Per-  
4 formance measures shall be established during  
5 the proposal stage of a research and develop-  
6 ment project and shall, to the maximum extent  
7 practicable, be outcome-based.

8 “(C) PROGRAM PLAN.—To the maximum  
9 extent practicable, each program pursued under  
10 this chapter shall be part of a data-driven, out-  
11 come-oriented program plan.

12 “(D) AVAILABILITY OF EVALUATIONS.—All  
13 evaluations under this paragraph shall be made  
14 readily available to the public.”; and

15 (F) in paragraph (8), by striking “sur-  
16 face”;

17 (2) in subsection (b)—

18 (A) by striking paragraph (4) and insert-  
19 ing the following:

20 “(4) TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION.—The Sec-  
21 retary shall ensure that the programs and activities  
22 carried out under this section are consistent with the  
23 transportation research and development strategic  
24 plan developed under section 508.”; and

1 (B) in paragraph (6) by adding at the end  
2 the following:

3 “(C) TRANSFER OF AMOUNTS AMONG  
4 STATES OR TO FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINIS-  
5 TRATION.—The Secretary may, at the request  
6 of a State, transfer amounts apportioned or al-  
7 located to that State under this chapter to an-  
8 other State or the Federal Highway Adminis-  
9 tration to fund research, development, and tech-  
10 nology transfer activities of mutual interest on  
11 a pooled funds basis.

12 “(D) TRANSFER OF OBLIGATION AUTHOR-  
13 ITY.—Obligation authority for amounts trans-  
14 ferred under this subsection shall be disbursed  
15 in the same manner and for the same amount  
16 as provided for the project being transferred.”;  
17 (3) in subsection (c)(3)(A) by striking “50”  
18 and inserting “80”;

19 (4) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the  
20 following:

21 “(d) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH AND  
22 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—

23 “(1) OBJECTIVES.—In carrying out the surface  
24 transportation research and development program,

1 the Secretary, to address current and emerging  
2 highway transportation needs, shall—

3 “(A) identify research topics;

4 “(B) coordinate research and development  
5 activities;

6 “(C) carry out research, testing, and eval-  
7 uation activities;

8 “(D) ensure program activities are coordi-  
9 nated with the transportation research and de-  
10 velopment strategic plan developed under sec-  
11 tion 508; and

12 “(E) provide technology transfer and tech-  
13 nical assistance.

14 “(2) CONTENTS.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Research and develop-  
16 ment activities carried out under this section  
17 may include any of the activities in this para-  
18 graph.

19 “(B) IMPROVING HIGHWAY SAFETY.—

20 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary  
21 may carry out research and development  
22 activities from an integrated perspective to  
23 establish and implement systematic meas-  
24 ures to improve highway safety.



1 “(ii) OBJECTIVES.—In carrying out  
2 this subparagraph, the Secretary may  
3 carry out research and development activi-  
4 ties—

5 “(I) to achieve greater long-term  
6 safety gains;

7 “(II) to reduce the number of fa-  
8 talities and serious injuries on public  
9 roads;

10 “(III) to fill knowledge gaps that  
11 limit the effectiveness of research;

12 “(IV) to support the development  
13 and implementation of State strategic  
14 highway safety plans;

15 “(V) to advance improvements  
16 in, and use of, performance prediction  
17 analysis for decisionmaking;

18 “(VI) to expand technology  
19 transfer to partners and stakeholders;  
20 and

21 “(VII) to enhance rural highway  
22 safety.

23 “(C) IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE INTEG-  
24 RITY.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary  
2 may carry out and facilitate highway infra-  
3 structure research and development activi-  
4 ties—

5 “(I) to maintain infrastructure  
6 integrity;

7 “(II) to meet user needs; and

8 “(III) to link Federal transpor-  
9 tation investments to improvements in  
10 system performance.

11 “(ii) OBJECTIVES.—In carrying out  
12 this subparagraph, the Secretary may  
13 carry out research and development activi-  
14 ties—

15 “(I) to reduce the number of fa-  
16 talities attributable to infrastructure  
17 design characteristics and work zones;

18 “(II) to improve the safety and  
19 security of highway infrastructure;

20 “(III) to increase the reliability  
21 of lifecycle performance predictions  
22 used in infrastructure design, con-  
23 struction, and management;

24 “(IV) to improve the ability of  
25 transportation agencies to deliver

1 projects that meet expectations for  
2 timeliness, quality, and cost;

3 “(V) to reduce user delay attrib-  
4 utable to infrastructure system per-  
5 formance, maintenance, rehabilitation,  
6 and construction;

7 “(VI) to improve highway infra-  
8 structure condition and performance  
9 through increased use of design, ma-  
10 terials, construction, and maintenance  
11 innovations;

12 “(VII) to improve the resiliency  
13 of roadways to heavy freight traffic;

14 “(VIII) to reduce environmental  
15 impacts of highway infrastructure  
16 through innovations in design, con-  
17 struction, operation, preservation, and  
18 maintenance; and

19 “(IX) to study vulnerabilities of  
20 the transportation system to seismic  
21 activities and extreme events and  
22 methods to reduce those  
23 vulnerabilities.

1                   “(D) REDUCING CONGESTION, IMPROVING  
2                   HIGHWAY OPERATIONS, AND ENHANCING  
3                   FREIGHT PRODUCTIVITY.—

4                   “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary  
5                   may carry out research under this sub-  
6                   paragraph with the goals of—

7                   “(I) addressing congestion prob-  
8                   lems;

9                   “(II) reducing the costs of con-  
10                  gestion;

11                  “(III) improving freight move-  
12                  ment in both rural corridors and met-  
13                  ropolitan areas;

14                  “(IV) increasing productivity;  
15                  and

16                  “(V) improving the economic  
17                  competitiveness of the United States.

18                  “(ii) OBJECTIVES.—In carrying out  
19                  this subparagraph, the Secretary may  
20                  carry out research and development activi-  
21                  ties to identify, develop, and assess innova-  
22                  tions that have the potential—

23                  “(I) to reduce traffic congestion;

1 “(II) to improve freight move-  
2 ment in both rural corridors and met-  
3 ropolitan areas; and

4 “(III) to reduce freight-related  
5 congestion throughout the transpor-  
6 tation network.

7 “(E) ASSESSING POLICY AND SYSTEM FI-  
8 NANCING ALTERNATIVES.—The Secretary may  
9 conduct policy analysis on emerging issues in  
10 the transportation community to provide infor-  
11 mation to policy-makers and decisionmakers.”;

12 (5) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the  
13 following:

14 “(e) EXPLORATORY ADVANCED RESEARCH.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-  
16 lish an exploratory advanced research program, con-  
17 sistent with the transportation research and develop-  
18 ment strategic plan of the Secretary, that addresses  
19 longer-term, higher-risk research with potentially  
20 dramatic breakthroughs.

21 “(2) RESEARCH AREAS.—In carrying out the  
22 program, the Secretary may make grants and enter  
23 into cooperative agreements and contracts in such  
24 areas of surface transportation research and tech-  
25 nology as the Secretary determines appropriate.

1           “(3) AUTHORIZATION.—Of the amounts author-  
2       ized in section 2(a)(1) of the Driving Research  
3       through Innovative Viable Economic Solutions Act  
4       of 2012, \$14,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2013  
5       through 2016 shall be available to carry out this  
6       subsection.”;

7           (6) by striking subsections (f), (g), and (j);

8           (7) by redesignating subsections (h) and (i) as  
9       subsections (f) and (g), respectively;

10          (8) in subsection (f), as so redesignated—

11           (A) by striking “2006” and inserting  
12       “2012”;

13           (B) by inserting “and the Committee on  
14       Commerce, Science, and Transportation” after  
15       “Public Works”; and

16           (C) by inserting “and the Committee on  
17       Science, Space, and Technology” after “Infra-  
18       structure”; and

19          (9) by adding at the end the following:

20       “(h) PRIZE COMPETITION.—Consistent with section  
21   24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of  
22   1980, the Secretary may carry out a program to award  
23   prizes competitively to stimulate innovation in the area of  
24   surface transportation that has the potential to advance

1 the Federal Highway Administration’s research and tech-  
2 nology objectives and activities under section 502.

3 “(i) CENTERS FOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EX-  
4 CELLENCE.—

5 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary may es-  
6 tablish not more than 4 centers for surface transpor-  
7 tation excellence.

8 “(2) GOALS.—The goals of the centers for sur-  
9 face transportation excellence are to promote and  
10 support strategic national surface transportation  
11 programs and activities relating to the work of State  
12 departments of transportation.

13 “(3) ROLE OF THE CENTERS.—To achieve the  
14 goals set forth in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall  
15 establish centers that provide technical assistance,  
16 information sharing of best practices, and training  
17 in the use of tools and decisionmaking processes that  
18 can assist States in effectively implementing surface  
19 transportation programs, projects, and policies.

20 “(4) PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.—

21 “(A) COMPETITION.—A party entering  
22 into a contract, cooperative agreement, or other  
23 transaction with the Secretary under this sub-  
24 section, or receiving a grant to perform re-  
25 search or provide technical assistance under

1           this subsection, shall be selected on a competi-  
2           tive basis.

3           “(B) STRATEGIC PLAN.—The Secretary  
4           shall require each center to develop a multiyear  
5           strategic plan, and submit the plan to the Sec-  
6           retary at such time as the Secretary requires,  
7           that describes—

8                   “(i) the activities to be undertaken by  
9                   the center; and

10                   “(ii) how the work of the center will  
11                   be coordinated with the activities of the  
12                   Federal Highway Administration and the  
13                   various other research, development, and  
14                   technology transfer activities authorized by  
15                   this chapter.

16           “(5) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made avail-  
17           able by section 2(a)(1) of the Driving Research  
18           through Innovative Viable Economic Solutions Act  
19           of 2012, not more than \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal  
20           years 2013 through 2016 shall be available to carry  
21           out this subsection.”.

22 **SEC. 4. TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT.**

23           Section 503 of title 23, United States Code, is  
24           amended—



1           (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-  
2           section (f); and

3           (2) by striking subsections (a) through (d) and  
4           inserting the following:

5           “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a  
6           technology deployment program relating to all aspects of  
7           highway transportation with the goals of—

8           “(1) significantly accelerating the adoption of  
9           innovative technologies by the surface transportation  
10          community;

11          “(2) providing leadership and incentives to  
12          demonstrate and promote state-of-the-art tech-  
13          nologies, elevated performance standards, and new  
14          business practices in highway construction processes  
15          that result in improved safety, faster construction,  
16          reduced congestion from construction, and improved  
17          quality and user satisfaction;

18          “(3) constructing longer-lasting highways  
19          through the use of innovative technologies and prac-  
20          tices that lead to faster construction of efficient and  
21          safe highways and bridges;

22          “(4) improving highway efficiency, safety, mo-  
23          bility, reliability, service life, and environmental pro-  
24          tection; and

1           “(5) developing and deploying new tools, tech-  
2           niques, and practices to accelerate the adoption of  
3           innovation in all aspects of highway transportation.

4           “(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall pro-  
5           mote, facilitate, and carry out the program established  
6           under subsection (a) to distribute the products, tech-  
7           nologies, tools, methods, or other findings that result from  
8           highway research and development activities, including re-  
9           search and development activities carried out under this  
10          chapter and subtitle C of title V of SAFETEA-LU.

11          “(c) ACCELERATED INNOVATION DEPLOYMENT.—In  
12          carrying out the program established under subsection (a),  
13          the Secretary shall—

14               “(1) establish and carry out demonstration pro-  
15               grams;

16               “(2) provide incentives, technical assistance,  
17               and training to researchers and developers; and

18               “(3) develop improved tools and methods to ac-  
19               celerate the adoption of proven innovative practices  
20               and technologies as standard practices.

21          “(d) GRANTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND  
22          CONTRACTS.—

23               “(1) IN GENERAL.—Under the program, the  
24               Secretary may make grants to, and enter into coop-  
25               erative agreements and contracts with, States, other

1 Federal agencies, institutions of higher education,  
2 private sector entities, and nonprofit organizations  
3 to pay the Federal share of the cost of research, de-  
4 velopment, and deployment activities.

5 “(2) APPLICATIONS.—To receive a grant under  
6 this subsection, an entity described in paragraph (1)  
7 shall submit an application to the Secretary. The ap-  
8 plication shall be in such form and contain such in-  
9 formation and assurances as the Secretary may re-  
10 quire.

11 “(3) TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION TRANS-  
12 FER.—The Secretary shall ensure that the informa-  
13 tion and technology resulting from research con-  
14 ducted under this subsection is made available to  
15 State and local transportation departments and  
16 other interested parties as specified by the Sec-  
17 retary.

18 “(e) IMPLEMENTATION OF FUTURE STRATEGIC  
19 HIGHWAY RESEARCH PROGRAM FINDINGS AND RE-  
20 SULTS.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consulta-  
22 tion with the American Association of State High-  
23 way and Transportation Officials and the Transpor-  
24 tation Research Board of the National Academy of  
25 Sciences, shall, as appropriate, implement the find-

1        ings and recommendations developed under the Stra-  
2        tegic Highway Research Program 2 administered by  
3        the Transportation Research Board of the National  
4        Academy of Sciences.

5            “(2) BASIS FOR FINDINGS.—The activities car-  
6        ried out under this subsection shall be based on the  
7        Transportation Research Board Special Report 296  
8        entitled ‘Implementing the Results of the Second  
9        Strategic Highway Research Program: Saving Lives,  
10       Reducing Congestion, Improving Quality of Life’.

11           “(3) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The Secretary  
12        may use 1 percent of the funds made available to  
13        carry out this subsection for the administrative costs  
14        under this subsection.

15           “(4) FEES.—

16                “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may  
17        impose and collect fees to recover costs associ-  
18        ated with special data or analysis requests re-  
19        lating to safety naturalistic driving databases  
20        developed under the future strategic highway  
21        research program.

22                “(B) USE OF FEE AMOUNTS.—

23                    “(i) IN GENERAL.—Any fees collected  
24        under this paragraph shall be made avail-  
25        able to the Secretary to carry out this sub-

1 section and shall remain available until ex-  
 2 pended.

3 “(ii) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—  
 4 Any fee amounts collected under this para-  
 5 graph shall supplement, but not supplant,  
 6 amounts made available to the Secretary to  
 7 carry out this section.”.

8 **SEC. 5. TRAINING AND EDUCATION.**

9 Section 504 of title 23, United States Code, is  
 10 amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)—

12 (A) in paragraph (2)(A) by inserting “and  
 13 the employees of any other applicable Federal  
 14 agency” after “employees”; and

15 (B) in paragraph (3)(A)(ii)(V) by striking  
 16 “expediting” and inserting “reducing the  
 17 amount of time required for”;

18 (2) in subsection (b) by striking paragraph (3)  
 19 and inserting the following:

20 “(3) FEDERAL SHARE.—

21 “(A) LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CEN-  
 22 TERS.—

23 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause  
 24 (ii), the Federal share of the cost of any  
 25 activity carried out by a local technical as-

sistance center under paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be 50 percent.

“(ii) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—Up to 100 percent of the non-Federal share of the cost of an activity described in clause (i) may consist of amounts provided to a recipient under subsection (e) or section 505.

“(B) TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS.—The Federal share of the cost of an activity carried out by a tribal technical assistance center under paragraph (2)(D)(ii) shall be 100 percent.”;

(3) in subsection (c) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER TRANSPORTATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and implement a transportation research fellowship program, to be known as the ‘Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program’, for the purpose of attracting qualified students to the field of transportation.

“(B) USE OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts provided to an institution of higher education to

1 carry out this paragraph shall be used to pro-  
2 vide direct support of student expenses.”;  
3 (4) in subsection (d) by striking paragraph (4);  
4 (5) in subsection (e)—  
5 (A) in paragraph (1)—  
6 (i) in the text before subparagraph  
7 (A) by striking “sections 104(b)(1),  
8 104(b)(2), 104(b)(3), 104(b)(4), and  
9 144(e)” and inserting “paragraphs (1)  
10 through (3) of section 104(b)”;  
11 (ii) in subparagraph (D) by striking  
12 “and” after the semicolon;  
13 (iii) in subparagraph (E) by striking  
14 the period at the end and inserting a semi-  
15 colon; and  
16 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-  
17 lowing:  
18 “(F) activities carried out by the National  
19 Highway Institute under subsection (a); and  
20 “(G) local technical assistance programs  
21 under subsection (b).”; and  
22 (B) in paragraph (2) by inserting before  
23 the period at the end the following: “; except  
24 for activities carried out under paragraph

1 (1)(G) for which the Federal share shall be 50  
 2 percent as described in subsection (b)(3)(A)”;

3 (6) in the heading of subsection (f) by striking  
 4 “PILOT”; and

5 (7) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(h) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘institu-  
 7 tion of higher education’ has the meaning given that term  
 8 in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
 9 U.S.C. 1001).”.

10 **SEC. 6. REPEALS.**

11 Sections 506 and 507 of title 23, United States Code,  
 12 and the items relating to such sections in the analysis of  
 13 chapter 55 of such title, are repealed.

14 **SEC. 7. TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**  
 15 **STRATEGIC PLANNING.**

16 Section 508(a) of title 23, United States Code, is  
 17 amended to read as follows:

18 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

19 “(1) DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 1 year  
 20 after the date of enactment of the Driving Research  
 21 through Innovative Viable Economic Solutions Act  
 22 of 2012, the Secretary, acting through the Adminis-  
 23 trator of the Research and Innovative Technology  
 24 Administration, shall develop a 5-year transportation  
 25 research and development strategic plan to guide



1 Federal transportation research and development ac-  
2 tivities. This plan shall be consistent with section  
3 306 of title 5, sections 1115 and 1116 of title 31,  
4 and any other research and development plan within  
5 the Department of Transportation.

6 “(2) CONTENTS.—The strategic plan developed  
7 under paragraph (1) shall describe the primary pur-  
8 poses of the transportation research and develop-  
9 ment program, which shall include, at a minimum—

10 “(A) reducing congestion and improving  
11 mobility;

12 “(B) promoting safety in both rural cor-  
13 ridors and metropolitan areas;

14 “(C) improving goods movement in both  
15 rural corridors and metropolitan areas;

16 “(D) protecting and enhancing the envi-  
17 ronment;

18 “(E) preserving the existing transportation  
19 system;

20 “(F) improving the durability and extend-  
21 ing the life of transportation infrastructure; and

22 “(G) improving rural connectivity and mo-  
23 bility.”.

1 **SEC. 8. ADDITIONAL REPEALS.**

2 Sections 509 and 510 of title 23, United States Code,  
3 and the items relating to such sections in the analysis of  
4 chapter 55 of such title, are repealed.

5 **SEC. 9. INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS.**

6 (a) PROGRAM PLAN UPDATE.—Section 512(a)(1) of  
7 title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking  
8 “SAFETEA-LU” and inserting “Driving Research  
9 through Innovative Viable Economic Solutions Act of  
10 2012”.

11 (b) PURPOSES.—Section 5303(b) of the SAFETEA-  
12 LU is amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (7) by striking “and” after  
14 the semicolon;

15 (2) in paragraph (8) by striking the period at  
16 the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

18 “(9) ensure a systems approach that includes  
19 cooperation among vehicles, the infrastructure, and  
20 users.”.

21 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—Section 5305(h)(2) of the  
22 SAFETEA-LU is amended to read as follows:

23 “(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Advisory Committee  
24 shall have not more than 20 members, be balanced  
25 between metropolitan and rural interests, and in-  
26 clude representatives from state and local highway

1 departments, academia, industry, and other relevant  
2 organizations.”.

3 (d) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—Section 5306  
4 of the SAFETEA-LU is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b)(3) by striking “systems  
6 with goals of” and all that follows through “emer-  
7 gency care providers and trauma centers;” and in-  
8 serting “systems;”; and

9 (2) in subsection (c) by inserting “percent”  
10 after “80”.

11 (e) NATIONAL ARCHITECTURE AND STANDARDS.—  
12 Section 5307 of the SAFETEA-LU is amended—

13 (1) in subsection (a) by striking paragraph (4);  
14 and

15 (2) by amending subsection (c) to read as fol-  
16 lows:

17 “(c) CONFORMITY WITH REGIONAL ARCHITEC-  
18 TURE.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
20 graph (2), the Secretary shall ensure that intelligent  
21 transportation system projects carried out using  
22 amounts made available from the Highway Trust  
23 Fund, including amounts made available to deploy  
24 intelligent transportation systems, conform to the  
25 appropriate regional intelligent transportation sys-

tem architecture, applicable standards or provisional standards, and protocols developed under subsection (a) or this subsection.

“(2) SECRETARY’S DISCRETION.—The Secretary may authorize exceptions to paragraph (1) for—

“(A) projects designed to achieve specific research objectives outlined in the national intelligent transportation system program plan or the surface transportation research and development strategic plan developed under section 508 of title 23, United States Code; or

“(B) the upgrade or expansion of an intelligent transportation system in existence on the date of enactment of this Act if the Secretary determines that the upgrade or expansion—

“(i) would not adversely affect the goals or purposes of this subtitle;

“(ii) is carried out before the end of the useful life of such system; and

“(iii) is cost-effective as compared to alternatives that would meet the conformity requirement of paragraph (1).”.

1 (f) VEHICLE-TO-VEHICLE AND VEHICLE-TO-INFRA-  
 2 STRUCTURE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS DEPLOY-  
 3 MENT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 5309 of the  
 5 SAFETEA-LU is amended to read as follows:

6 **“SEC. 5309. VEHICLE-TO-VEHICLE AND VEHICLE-TO-INFRA-  
 7 STRUCTURE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS DE-  
 8 PLOYMENT.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the  
 10 date of enactment of the Driving Research through Inno-  
 11 vative Viable Economic Solutions Act of 2012, the Sec-  
 12 retary shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space,  
 13 and Technology of the House of Representatives and the  
 14 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of  
 15 the Senate a report that—

16 “(1) describes a recommended implementation  
 17 path for dedicated short-range communications tech-  
 18 nology and applications; and

19 “(2) includes guidance on the relationship of  
 20 the proposed deployment of dedicated short-range  
 21 communications to the national architecture and  
 22 standards.

23 “(b) NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL REVIEW.—The  
 24 Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the National

1 Research Council for the review by the National Research  
2 Council of the report described in subsection (a).”.

3 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of  
4 contents of the SAFETEA-LU is amended by strik-  
5 ing the item relating to section 5309 and inserting  
6 the following:

“Sec. 5309. Vehicle-to-vehicle and vehicle-to-infrastructure communications sys-  
tems deployment.”.

7 (g) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 513(a) of  
8 title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking  
9 “this”.

10 **SEC. 10. ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY.**

11 Section 112 of title 49, United States Code, is  
12 amended by adding at the end the following:

13 “(f) PROGRAM EVALUATION AND OVERSIGHT.—For  
14 each of fiscal years 2013 through 2016, the Administrator  
15 may expend not more than 1½ percent of the amounts  
16 authorized to be appropriated for the administration and  
17 operation of the Research and Innovative Technology Ad-  
18 ministration to carry out the coordination, evaluation, and  
19 oversight of the programs administered by the Administra-  
20 tion.

21 “(g) COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOP-  
22 MENT.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To encourage innovative  
24 solutions to multimodal transportation problems and

1 stimulate the deployment of new technology, the Ad-  
2 ministrator may carry out, on a cost-shared basis,  
3 collaborative research and development with—

4 “(A) non-Federal entities, including State  
5 and local governments, foreign governments, in-  
6 stitutions of higher education, corporations, in-  
7 stitutions, partnerships, sole proprietorships,  
8 and trade associations that are incorporated or  
9 established under the laws of any State;

10 “(B) Federal laboratories; and

11 “(C) other Federal agencies.

12 “(2) COOPERATION, GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND  
13 AGREEMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision  
14 of law, the Administrator may directly initiate con-  
15 tracts, grants, cooperative research and development  
16 agreements (as defined in section 12 of the Steven-  
17 son-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15  
18 U.S.C. 3710a)), and other agreements to fund, and  
19 accept funds from, the Transportation Research  
20 Board of the National Research Council of the Na-  
21 tional Academy of Sciences, State departments of  
22 transportation, cities, counties, institutions of higher  
23 education, associations, and the agents of those enti-  
24 ties to carry out joint transportation research and  
25 technology efforts.

1 “(3) FEDERAL SHARE.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
3 graph (B), the Federal share of the cost of an  
4 activity carried out under paragraph (2) shall  
5 not exceed 50 percent.

6 “(B) EXCEPTION.—If the Secretary deter-  
7 mines that the activity is of substantial public  
8 interest or benefit, the Secretary may approve  
9 a greater Federal share.

10 “(C) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—All costs di-  
11 rectly incurred by the non-Federal partners, in-  
12 cluding personnel, travel, facility, and hardware  
13 development costs, shall be credited toward the  
14 non-Federal share of the cost of an activity de-  
15 scribed in subparagraph (A).

16 “(4) USE OF TECHNOLOGY.—The research, de-  
17 velopment, or use of a technology under a contract,  
18 grant, cooperative research and development agree-  
19 ment, or other agreement entered into under this  
20 subsection, including the terms under which the  
21 technology may be licensed and the resulting royal-  
22 ties may be distributed, shall be subject to the Ste-  
23 venson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980  
24 (15 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.).”.



1 **SEC. 11. UNIVERSITY TRANSPORTATION CENTERS.**

2 (a) PROGRAM.—Section 5505 of title 49, United  
3 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

4 **“§ 5505. University transportation centers program**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

6 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION.—The  
7 Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the  
8 Research and Innovative Technology Administration,  
9 shall make grants under sections 5506 and 5507 to  
10 institutions of higher education, including multiple  
11 institutions of higher education acting in consortia,  
12 to establish and operate university transportation  
13 centers to address the research topics identified  
14 under section 502(d) of title 23.

15 “(2) ROLE OF CENTERS.—The role of each uni-  
16 versity transportation center referred to in para-  
17 graph (1) shall be—

18 “(A) to advance significant transportation  
19 research on critical national transportation  
20 issues in the varied disciplines that comprise  
21 the field of transportation through research,  
22 education, and technology transfer activities;

23 “(B) to provide for a critical transpor-  
24 tation knowledge base outside of the Depart-  
25 ment of Transportation; and

1           “(C) to address critical workforce needs  
2           and educate the next generation of transpor-  
3           tation leaders.

4           “(b) COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS.—

5           “(1) APPLICATIONS.—To receive a grant under  
6           either section 5506 or 5507, an institution of higher  
7           education, or a consortia thereof, shall submit to the  
8           Secretary an application that is in such form and  
9           contains such information and assurances as the  
10          Secretary may require.

11          “(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary  
12          shall select each recipient of a grant under section  
13          5506 or 5507 through a competitive process based  
14          on the assessment of the Secretary relating to—

15                 “(A) the demonstrated ability of the recipi-  
16                 ent to address each specific topic area described  
17                 in the research and strategic plans of the recipi-  
18                 ent;

19                 “(B) the demonstrated research, education,  
20                 and technology transfer resources available to  
21                 the recipient to carry out this section;

22                 “(C) the ability of the recipient to provide  
23                 leadership in solving long-range national and  
24                 regional transportation problems;

1           “(D) the ability of the recipient to carry  
2 out research, education, and technology transfer  
3 activities that are multimodal and multidisci-  
4 plinary in scope;

5           “(E) the demonstrated ability of the recipi-  
6 ent to disseminate results and spur the imple-  
7 mentation of transportation research and edu-  
8 cation programs through national or statewide  
9 continuing education programs;

10          “(F) the demonstrated commitment of the  
11 recipient to the use of peer review principles  
12 and other research best practices in the selec-  
13 tion, management, and dissemination of re-  
14 search projects;

15          “(G) the strategic plan submitted by the  
16 recipient describing the proposed research to be  
17 carried out by the recipient and the perform-  
18 ance metrics to be used in assessing the per-  
19 formance of the recipient in meeting the stated  
20 research and technology transfer goals; and

21          “(H) the ability of the recipient to imple-  
22 ment the proposed program in a cost-efficient  
23 manner, such as through consortia-based ap-  
24 proaches with cost sharing aimed at reducing  
25 overhead, facilities, and administrative costs.

1           “(3) ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIRE-  
2           MENT.—An institution of higher education that re-  
3           ceives a grant for a fiscal year under either section  
4           5506 or section 5507 or the lead institution of a  
5           consortia of institutions that receives a grant for a  
6           fiscal year under section 5506 or section 5507 is in-  
7           eligible to receive an additional grant under either  
8           section in such fiscal year.

9           “(c) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

10           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The non-Federal share of  
11           the costs of activities carried out using a grant made  
12           under this section shall be 35 percent of such costs.

13           “(2) SOURCE.—The non-Federal share may in-  
14           clude amounts made available to a recipient under  
15           section 504(b) or 505 of title 23.

16           “(d) PROGRAM COORDINATION.—

17           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

18                   “(A) coordinate the research, education,  
19                   and technology transfer activities carried out by  
20                   grant recipients under this section; and

21                   “(B) disseminate the results of that re-  
22                   search through the establishment and operation  
23                   of an information clearinghouse.

24           “(2) ANNUAL REVIEW AND EVALUATION.—Not  
25           less frequently than annually, and consistent with

1 the transportation research and development stra-  
2 tegic plan developed under section 508, the Sec-  
3 retary shall review and evaluate the programs car-  
4 ried out under this section and sections 5506 and  
5 5507 by grant recipients.

6 “(3) PROGRAM EVALUATION AND OVER-  
7 SIGHT.—For each of fiscal years 2013 through  
8 2016, the Secretary shall expend not more than 1½  
9 percent of the amounts made available to the Sec-  
10 retary under section 2(a)(4) of the Driving Research  
11 through Innovative Viable Economic Solutions Act  
12 of 2012 for any coordination, evaluation, and over-  
13 sight activities of the Secretary, including efforts to  
14 combat waste, fraud, and abuse, under this section,  
15 section 5506, and section 5507.

16 “(e) LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—  
17 Amounts made available to the Secretary to carry out this  
18 section and sections 5506 and 5507 shall remain available  
19 for obligation by the Secretary for a period of 2 years after  
20 the last day of the fiscal year for which the amounts are  
21 appropriated.

22 “(f) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION DE-  
23 FINED.—For purposes of this section and sections 5506  
24 and 5507, the term ‘institution of higher education’ has

1 the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Higher  
2 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).”.

3 (b) REGIONAL UNIVERSITY TRANSPORTATION CEN-  
4 TERS.—Section 5506 of such title is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 **“§ 5506. Regional university transportation centers**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—For each of fiscal years 2013  
8 through 2016, the Secretary shall make grants to institu-  
9 tions of higher education, or a consortia thereof, to estab-  
10 lish and operate 10 regional university transportation cen-  
11 ters.

12 “(b) LOCATION.—The Secretary shall make a grant  
13 under subsection (a) to the institution, or the lead institu-  
14 tion of a consortia, located in each of the 10 United States  
15 Government regions that comprise the Standard Federal  
16 Regional Boundary System that the Secretary determines  
17 best meets the criteria described in section 5505(b).

18 “(c) FUNDING.—For each of fiscal years 2013  
19 through 2016, the Secretary may not award a grant under  
20 this section that exceeds \$3,500,000.”.

21 (c) UNIVERSITY TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH CEN-  
22 TERS.—Subchapter I of chapter 55 of such title is amend-  
23 ed by adding at the end the following:

1 **“§ 5507. University transportation research centers**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—For each of fiscal years 2013  
3 through 2016, the Secretary shall make grants to 20 insti-  
4 tutions of higher education or consortia thereof that the  
5 Secretary determines best meet the criteria described in  
6 section 5505(b).

7 “(b) FUNDING.—For each of fiscal years 2013  
8 through 2016, the Secretary may not award a grant under  
9 this section that exceeds \$2,000,000.”.

10 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for  
11 chapter 55 of title 49, United States Code, is amended  
12 by striking the items relating to sections 5505 and 5506  
13 and inserting the following:

“5505. University transportation centers program.

“5506. Regional university transportation centers.

“5507. University transportation research centers.”.

14 **SEC. 12. BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS.**

15 Section 111 of title 49, United States Code, is  
16 amended—

17 (1) in subsection (c) by striking paragraph (5)  
18 and inserting the following:

19 “(5) TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS.—Col-  
20 lecting, compiling, analyzing, and publishing a com-  
21 prehensive set of transportation statistics on the per-  
22 formance and impacts of the national transportation  
23 system, including statistics on—

1           “(A) transportation safety across all modes  
2           and intermodally;

3           “(B) the state of good repair of United  
4           States transportation infrastructure;

5           “(C) the extent, connectivity, and condition  
6           of the transportation system, building on the  
7           national transportation atlas database devel-  
8           oped under subsection (g);

9           “(D) economic efficiency across the entire  
10          transportation sector;

11          “(E) the effects of the transportation sys-  
12          tem on global and domestic economic competi-  
13          tiveness;

14          “(F) demographic, economic, and other  
15          variables influencing travel behavior, including  
16          choice of transportation mode and goods move-  
17          ment;

18          “(G) transportation-related variables that  
19          influence the domestic economy and global com-  
20          petitiveness;

21          “(H) economic costs and impacts for pas-  
22          senger travel and freight movement;

23          “(I) intermodal and multimodal passenger  
24          movement; and



1                   “(J) consequences of transportation for the  
2                   environment.”;

3                   (2) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the  
4                   following:

5                   “(d) ACCESS TO FEDERAL DATA.—In carrying out  
6                   subsection (c), the Director shall be provided access to all  
7                   transportation and transportation-related information and  
8                   data, including that related to safety, held by any agency  
9                   of the Department of Transportation and, upon written  
10                  request and subject to any statutory or regulatory restric-  
11                  tions, to all such data held by any other Federal Govern-  
12                  ment agency, that is germane to carrying out subsection  
13                  (c).”;

14                  (3) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the  
15                  following:

16                  “(f) NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION LIBRARY.—

17                         “(1) IN GENERAL.—To support the information  
18                         management and decisionmaking needs of transpor-  
19                         tation officials at the Federal, State, and local levels,  
20                         the Bureau of Transportation Statistics shall main-  
21                         tain a National Transportation Library that shall—

22                                 “(A) be headed by an individual who is  
23                                 highly qualified in library and information  
24                                 science;

1           “(B) acquire, preserve, and manage trans-  
2           portation information and information products  
3           and services for use by the Department, other  
4           Federal agencies, and the general public;

5           “(C) provide reference and research assist-  
6           ance;

7           “(D) serve as a central depository for re-  
8           search results and technical publications of the  
9           Department;

10          “(E) provide a central clearinghouse for  
11          transportation data and information of the Fed-  
12          eral Government;

13          “(F) serve as coordinator and policy lead  
14          for transportation data and information of the  
15          Federal Government;

16          “(G) provide transportation information  
17          and information products and services to—

18               “(i) the Department;

19               “(ii) other Federal agencies;

20               “(iii) public and private organizations;

21          and

22               “(iv) individuals, within the United  
23          States as well as internationally;

24          “(H) coordinate efforts among, and co-  
25          operate with, transportation libraries, informa-

tion providers, and technical assistance centers,  
with the goal of developing a comprehensive  
transportation information and knowledge net-  
work that supports the activities described in  
subsection (c)(5); and

“(I) engage in such other activities as the  
Director determines to be necessary and as the  
resources of the Library permit.

“(2) ACCESS.—The Director shall publicize, fa-  
cilitate, and promote access to the products and  
services described in subsection (a), with the goal of  
improving the ability of the transportation commu-  
nity to share information and the ability of the Di-  
rector to make statistics readily accessible under  
subsection (c)(9).

“(3) AGREEMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—To carry out this sub-  
section, the Director may enter into agreements  
with, provide grants to, and receive amounts  
from, any—

“(i) State or local government;

“(ii) organization;

“(iii) business; or

“(iv) individual.

1           “(B) CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND AGREE-  
 2           MENTS.—The Library may initiate and support  
 3           specific information and data management, ac-  
 4           cess, and exchange activities relating to the  
 5           strategic goals of the Department, knowledge  
 6           networking, and national and international co-  
 7           operation, by entering into contracts or other  
 8           agreements or providing grants.

9           “(C) AMOUNTS.—Any amounts received by  
 10          the Library as payment for library products  
 11          and services or other activities shall be made  
 12          available to the Director to carry out this sub-  
 13          section and remain available until expended.”;

14          (4) by striking subsection (m);

15          (5) by redesignating subsections (n) and (o) as  
 16          subsections (m) and (n), respectively;

17          (6) in subsection (m) (as so redesignated) by  
 18          striking “(other than the Mass Transit account)”;

19          (7) in subsection (n) (as so redesignated)—

20                 (A) in paragraph (2)—

21                         (i) by adding “and” after the semi-  
 22                         colon in subparagraph (A);

23                         (ii) by striking subparagraph (B); and

24                         (iii) by redesignating subparagraph

25                         (C) as subparagraph (B); and

1 (B) by striking paragraph (3) and insert-  
2 ing the following:

3 “(3) MEMBERSHIP.—The advisory council es-  
4 tablished under this subsection shall be composed of  
5 not fewer than 9 and not more than 11 members ap-  
6 pointed by the Director, who are not officers or em-  
7 ployees of the United States. Members shall include  
8 representation of a cross-section of transportation  
9 community stakeholders and shall include individuals  
10 with expertise or knowledge of statistics, economics,  
11 transportation safety, or transportation data anal-  
12 ysis, collection, or application.”; and

13 (8) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(o) TRANSPORTATION STATISTICAL COLLECTION,  
15 ANALYSIS, AND DISSEMINATION.—To ensure that all  
16 transportation statistical collection, analysis, and dissemi-  
17 nation is carried out in a coordinated manner, the Director  
18 may—

19 “(1) use the services, equipment, records, per-  
20 sonnel, information, and facilities of other Federal  
21 agencies, or State, local, and private agencies and  
22 instrumentalities, subject to the conditions that the  
23 applicable agency or instrumentality consents to that  
24 use;

1           “(2) enter into agreements with the agencies  
2           and instrumentalities described in paragraph (1) for  
3           purposes of data collection and analysis;

4           “(3) confer and cooperate with foreign govern-  
5           ments, international organizations, and State, mu-  
6           nicipal, and other local agencies;

7           “(4) request such information, data, and re-  
8           ports from any Federal agency as the Director de-  
9           termines necessary to carry out this section, includ-  
10          ing by entering into cooperative data sharing agree-  
11          ments in conformity with all laws and regulations  
12          applicable to the disclosure and use of data; and

13          “(5) encourage replication, coordination, and  
14          sharing among transportation agencies regarding in-  
15          formation systems, information policy, and data.

16          “(p) FURNISHING OF INFORMATION, DATA, OR RE-  
17          PORTS BY FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Except in a case in  
18          which the disclosure of information, data, or reports by  
19          a Federal agency is expressly prohibited by law, a Federal  
20          agency requested to furnish information, data, or reports  
21          under subsection (d) shall provide such information to the  
22          Bureau.”.

○