

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2595

To amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a nationally significant Federal lands and tribal projects program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 1, 2015

Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. BEYER, Ms. EDWARDS, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a nationally significant Federal lands and tribal projects 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 “Save Our National
5 Parks Transportation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT FEDERAL LANDS AND**
2 **TRIBAL PROJECTS PROGRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title 23, United
4 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 206 the
5 following:

6 **“§ 207. Nationally significant Federal lands and tribal**
7 **projects program**

8 “(a) PURPOSE.—The Secretary of Transportation
9 shall establish a nationally significant Federal lands and
10 tribal projects program to provide funding to construct,
11 reconstruct, or rehabilitate nationally significant Federal
12 lands and tribal transportation projects.

13 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as specified in
15 paragraph (2), an entity eligible to receive funds
16 under sections 201, 202, 203 and 204 of this title
17 is eligible to receive funds under this section.

18 “(2) SPECIAL RULE.—A State, county or local
19 government is eligible to receive funds under this
20 section if such government is sponsored by an eligi-
21 ble Federal land management agency or Indian
22 tribe.

23 “(c) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive funds
24 under this section, an entity shall submit to the Secretary
25 an application in such form and in accordance with such
26 requirements as the Secretary may establish.

1 “(d) PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.—An eligible project
2 under this section shall be a single continuous project—

3 “(1) on a Federal lands transportation facility,
4 a Federal lands access transportation facility, or a
5 tribal transportation facility, except that such facil-
6 ity is not required to be included on an inventory as
7 described under section 202 or 203;

8 “(2) for which completion of activities required
9 under the National Environmental Policy Act of
10 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), has been dem-
11 onstrated through a record of decision with respect
12 to the project, a finding that the project has no sig-
13 nificant impact, or a determination that the project
14 is categorically excluded; and

15 “(3) having an estimated cost, based on the re-
16 sults of preliminary engineering, equal to or exceed-
17 ing \$25,000,000, with priority consideration given to
18 projects with an estimated cost equal to or exceeding
19 \$50,000,000.

20 “(e) USE OF FUNDS.—An applicant receiving funds
21 under this section may only use such funds for construc-
22 tion, reconstruction, and rehabilitation activities, except
23 that activities related to project design are not eligible.

1 “(f) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In selecting a project to
2 receive funds under this section the Secretary shall con-
3 sider the extent to which the project—

4 “(1) furthers goals of the Department of
5 Transportation, including state of good repair, envi-
6 ronmental sustainability, economic competitiveness,
7 quality of life, and safety;

8 “(2) improves the condition of critical
9 multimodal transportation facilities;

10 “(3) needs construction, reconstruction, or re-
11 habilitation;

12 “(4) is included in or eligible for inclusion in
13 the National Register of Historic Places;

14 “(5) enhances environmental ecosystems;

15 “(6) uses new technologies and innovations that
16 enhance the efficiency of the project;

17 “(7) is supported by funds other than those re-
18 ceived under this title to construct, maintain, and
19 operate the facility;

20 “(8) spans 2 or more States; and

21 “(9) serves lands owned by multiple Federal
22 agencies or Indian tribes.”.

23 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

24 (1) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Section 201(b)
25 of such title is amended—

1 (A) in paragraph (1) by inserting “nation-
 2 ally significant Federal lands and tribal projects
 3 program,” after “Federal lands transportation
 4 program,”;

5 (B) in paragraph (4)(A) by inserting “na-
 6 tionally significant Federal lands and tribal
 7 projects program,” after “Federal lands trans-
 8 portation program,”; and

9 (C) in paragraph (7) by adding at the end
 10 the following—

11 “(C) **NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT FEDERAL**
 12 **LANDS AND TRIBAL PROJECTS PROGRAM.**—The
 13 Federal share of the cost of a project carried
 14 out under the nationally significant Federal
 15 lands and tribal projects program may be up to
 16 100 percent.”.

17 (2) **PLANNING.**—Section 201(c)(3) of such title
 18 is amended by inserting “nationally significant Fed-
 19 eral lands and tribal projects program” after “Fed-
 20 eral lands transportation program,” the first time it
 21 appears.

22 (3) **ANALYSIS.**—The analysis for chapter 2 of
 23 such title is amended by inserting after the item re-
 24 lated to 206 the following:

“207. Nationally significant Federal lands and tribal projects program.”.

1 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The following sums are author-
3 ized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund
4 (other than the Mass Transit Account):

5 (1) NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT FEDERAL LANDS
6 AND TRIBAL PROJECTS PROGRAM.—For the Nation-
7 ally significant Federal lands and tribal projects pro-
8 gram under section 207 of title 23, United States
9 Code, \$150,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016
10 through 2021.

11 (2) FEDERAL LANDS TRANSPORTATION PRO-
12 GRAM.—For the Federal lands transportation pro-
13 gram under section 203 of title 23, United States
14 Code, \$520,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016
15 through 2021, of which \$460,000,000 of the amount
16 made available for each fiscal year shall be the
17 amount for the National Park Service and
18 \$30,000,000 of the amount made available for each
19 fiscal year shall be the amount for the United States
20 Fish and Wildlife Service.

21 (b) AVAILABILITY.—Funds authorized by this section
22 shall be available on October 1 of the fiscal year for which
23 the funds are authorized and subject to any obligation lim-
24 itation on Federal-aid highways and highway safety con-
25 struction programs.