

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8859

To establish an innovative mobility and technology deployment grants program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 3, 2020

Mrs. MILLER (for herself, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, and Mr. PENCE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To establish an innovative mobility and technology deployment grants 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 “Reinvesting in Essen-
5 tial Partnerships And Infrastructure for Rural America
6 Act” or the “REPAIR Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FIXED GUIDEWAY CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS.**

8 Section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, is
9 amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) in paragraph (7)—

2 (i) in subparagraph (A) by striking

3 “\$100,000,000” and inserting

4 “\$200,000,000”; and

5 (ii) in subparagraph (B) by striking

6 “\$300,000,000” and inserting

7 “\$400,000,000”; and

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

9 “(8) RURAL START PROJECT.—The term ‘rural
10 start project’ means a new transit capital project
11 that is not in an urbanized area for which—

12 “(A) the Federal assistance provided or to
13 be provided under this section is less than
14 \$80,000,000; and

15 “(B) the total estimated net capital cost is
16 less than \$150,000,000.”;

17 (2) in subsection (b)(1) by striking “or small
18 start projects” and inserting “, small start projects,
19 or rural start projects”;

20 (3) in subsection (c)(1) by striking “small start
21 projects” and inserting “, small start projects, rural
22 start projects”; and

23 (4) in subsection (h)—

24 (A) in the heading by striking “SMALL
25 START PROJECTS” and inserting “SMALL

1 START PROJECTS AND RURAL START
2 PROJECTS”;

3 (B) in paragraph (1) by striking “small
4 start project” and inserting “small start project
5 or rural start project”;

6 (C) in paragraph (2)(A) by striking “small
7 starts project” and inserting “small start
8 project or rural start project”;

9 (D) in paragraph (3) by striking “small
10 start project” and inserting “small start project
11 or rural start project”; and

12 (E) in paragraph (6)(A) by striking “small
13 start project” and inserting “small start project
14 or rural start project”.

15 **SEC. 3. ENHANCED MOBILITY OF SENIORS AND INDIVID-**
16 **UALS WITH DISABILITIES.**

17 Section 5310 of title 49, United States Code, is
18 amended—

19 (1) in subsection (b)(2) by striking “(A)
20 AMOUNT AVAILABLE” and all that follows through
21 “A recipient of a grant under” and inserting “A re-
22 cipient of a grant under”;

23 (2) in subsection (c)(2) by adding at the end
24 the following:

1 “(E) REALLOCATION.—Amounts appor-
 2 tioned under section 5310(c)(1)(A) may be re-
 3 allocated to projects in areas other than urban-
 4 ized areas.”;

5 (3) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) of sub-
 6 section (d) and inserting the following:

7 “(1) CAPITAL PROJECTS.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
 9 subparagraph (B), a grant awarded under this
 10 section for a capital project shall be 80 percent
 11 of the net costs of the project, as determined by
 12 the Secretary.

13 “(B) EXCEPTION.—A State described in
 14 section 120(b) of title 23 shall receive a Gov-
 15 ernment share of the net costs in accordance
 16 with the formula under such section.

17 “(2) OPERATING ASSISTANCE.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by
 19 subparagraph (B), a grant awarded under this
 20 section for a operating assistance may not ex-
 21 ceed an amount equal to 50 percent of the net
 22 operating costs of the project, as determined by
 23 the Secretary.

24 “(B) EXCEPTION.—A State described in
 25 section 120(b) of title 23 shall receive a Gov-

1 ernment share of the net costs that is equal to
 2 62.5 percent of the Government share provided
 3 for under paragraph (1)(B).”; and
 4 (4) by striking subsection (e)(1) and inserting
 5 the following:

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent the Secretary
 7 determines appropriate, the requirements of—

8 “(A) section 5307 shall apply to recipients
 9 of grants made in urbanized areas under this
 10 subsection; and

11 “(B) section 5311 shall apply to recipients
 12 of grants made in rural areas under this sub-
 13 section.”.

14 **SEC. 4. FORMULA GRANTS FOR RURAL AREAS.**

15 Section 5311(g) of title 49, United States Code, is
 16 amended—

17 (1) in paragraph (1) by adding at the end the
 18 following:

19 “(C) PROJECTS IN QUALIFIED OPPOR-
 20 TUNITY ZONES, MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED
 21 AREAS, OR AREAS WITH A MEDICALLY UNDER-
 22 SERVED POPULATION.—A grant awarded under
 23 this section for a capital project in a qualified
 24 opportunity zone, a medically underserved area,
 25 or areas with a medically underserved popu-

1 lation shall be for 90 percent of the net costs
2 of the project, as determined by the Sec-
3 retary.”;

4 (2) in paragraph (2) by adding at the end the
5 following:

6 “(C) PROJECTS IN QUALIFIED OPPOR-
7 TUNITY ZONES, MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED
8 AREAS, OR AREAS WITH A MEDICALLY UNDER-
9 SERVED POPULATION.—A grant awarded under
10 this section for a capital project in a qualified
11 opportunity zone, a medically underserved area,
12 or an area with a medically underserved popu-
13 lation shall be for 62.5 percent of the Govern-
14 ment share provided for under paragraph
15 (1)(B).”; and

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

17 “(6) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

18 “(A) QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY ZONE.—
19 The term ‘qualified opportunity zone’ has the
20 meaning given such term section 1400Z–1 of
21 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

22 “(B) MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREAS;
23 AN AREA WITH A MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED
24 POPULATION.—The term ‘medically under-
25 served areas’ or ‘an area with a medically un-

1 derserved population’ means an area or popu-
 2 lations that are designated as medically under-
 3 served by the Secretary of Health and Human
 4 Services pursuant to section 330(b)(3) of the
 5 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
 6 254b(b)(3)).”.

7 **SEC. 5. NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION.**

8 (a) RESEARCH PROJECT ELIGIBILITY.—Section
 9 5312(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

10 (1) in subparagraph (M), by striking “or” at
 11 the end;

12 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (N) as sub-
 13 paragraph (O); and

14 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (M) the fol-
 15 lowing:

16 “(N) access to hospitals and healthcare
 17 providers in areas underserved by transit or
 18 with limited public transportation options, as
 19 determined by the Secretary; or”.

20 (b) INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT ELI-
 21 GIBILITY.—Section 5312(d)(2) of title 49, United States
 22 Code, is amended—

23 (1) in subparagraph (G), by striking “or” at
 24 the end;

1 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (H) as sub-
2 paragraph (I); and

3 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (G) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(H) public transportation projects that
6 improve health care access and outcomes; or”.

7 (c) DEMONSTRATION, DEPLOYMENT, AND EVALUA-
8 TION PROJECT ELIGIBILITY.—Section 5312(e)(3) of title
9 49, United States Code, is amended—

10 (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “or” at
11 the end;

12 (2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period
13 and inserting “; or”; and

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

15 “(D) the deployment of public transpor-
16 tation projects or practices that—

17 “(i) achieve measurable improvements
18 in transportation access to health care for
19 medically underserved areas or popu-
20 lations, as designated by the Health Re-
21 sources and Services Administration pursu-
22 ant to section 330(b)(3) of the Public
23 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
24 254b(b)(3));

“(ii) implement transportation strategies for addressing significant health needs as identified by a community health needs assessment pursuant to the requirements of section 501(r)(3)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; or

“(iii) eliminate or reduce transportation barriers to accessing health care that are identified and prioritized in the coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan described in section 5310(e)(2)(A).”.

SEC. 6. INNOVATIVE MOBILITY AND TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT GRANTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 5312 the following:

“§ 5313. Innovative mobility and technology deployment grants

“(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall establish an innovative mobility and technology deployment grants program to award grants to entities described in subsection (b) to assist in financing of public transportation projects that—

1 “(1) allow for the integration of mobility serv-
2 ices or technologies in public transportation services,
3 including traveler information, trip planning infor-
4 mation, new or expanded reservation capabilities, in-
5 tegrated payment solutions, fare automation, or de-
6 livery designs to improve options in public transpor-
7 tation;

8 “(2) advance first-mile, last-mile, late night, or
9 low density services that connect riders to public
10 transportation, including—

11 “(A) microtransit;

12 “(B) commuter busing; or

13 “(C) commuter highway vehicles;

14 “(3) advance on demand complementary para-
15 transit services;

16 “(4) provide accessibility and connectivity for
17 rural areas not being adequately served by public
18 transportation, as determined by the Secretary;

19 “(5) expand high-performing public transpor-
20 tation business models that increase access to public
21 transportation; or

22 “(6) provide any other transit service that the
23 Secretary determines appropriate to meet the pur-
24 poses of this section.

1 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible for a grant
2 under this section, an entity shall be—

3 “(1) a State or local government; or

4 “(2) a publicly owned operator of public trans-
5 portation.

6 “(c) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant
7 under this section, an entity described in subsection (b)
8 shall submit to the Secretary an application in such form
9 and contain such information as the Secretary may re-
10 quire.

11 “(d) RULEMAKING.—The Secretary shall—

12 “(1) issue such regulations as are necessary to
13 carry out this section, and publish such regulations
14 in the Federal Register, not later than 270 days
15 after the date of enactment of this section; and

16 “(2) in issuing such regulations, solicit and re-
17 ceive comments from stakeholders not later than
18 180 days after the date of enactment of this section.

19 “(e) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may
20 approve modified grant requirements for projects carried
21 out using a grant under this section.

22 “(f) LIMITATIONS.—

23 “(1) PERIOD OF GRANT.—A grant under this
24 section shall be for a 3-year period beginning on the

1 date on which the first payment of any amount
2 under the grant is provided to an eligible entity.

3 “(2) RURAL GRANT MINIMUM.—The Secretary
4 shall award not less than 20 percent of the total
5 amounts made available to carry out this section to
6 support activities described under subsection (a) in
7 rural areas.

8 “(3) GOVERNMENT SHARE OF COSTS.—The
9 Federal share of the total project cost of a project
10 carried out under this section may not exceed 80
11 percent.

12 “(4) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts authorized
13 to be appropriated to carry out this section for each
14 fiscal year, not more than 20 percent may be award-
15 ed under subsection (a) to a single entity.

16 “(g) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall annu-
17 ally collect from, review, and disseminate to public trans-
18 portation agencies findings or best practices from projects
19 funded under this section.

20 “(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21 “(1) COMMUTER HIGHWAY VEHICLE.—The
22 term ‘commuter highway vehicle’ has the meaning
23 given such term in section 132(f)(5)(B) of the Inter-
24 nal Revenue Code of 1986.

1 “(2) HIGH-PERFORMING PUBLIC TRANSPOR-
2 TATION.—The term ‘high-performing public trans-
3 portation’ means a public transportation service,
4 whether provided by a public agency, private non-
5 profit, or for-profit organization, that is able to col-
6 lect all operating costs through fare-box revenue or
7 other dedicated sources for an activity and increases
8 access to public transportation.

9 “(3) MICRO-TRANSIT.—The term ‘micro-transit’
10 means internet-enabled, public transportation serv-
11 ices that use dynamically generated routes calculated
12 by algorithms developed to increase the occupancy of
13 vehicles.”.

14 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
15 ter 53 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by in-
16 serting after section 5312 the following:

“5313. Innovative mobility and technology deployment grants.”.

