

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6463

To amend title 23 and title 49, United States Code, to require transportation planners to consider projects and strategies to improve safe and convenient access to services by all modes of travel for all users, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 7, 2020

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois (for himself, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, and Mr. SOTO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 23 and title 49, United States Code, to require transportation planners to consider projects and strategies to improve safe and convenient access to services by all modes of travel for all users, 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 “Improving Access to
5 Services Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONSIDERATION OF PROJECTS AND STRATEGIES**
2 **TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO SERVICES.**

3 (a) NATIONAL HIGHWAY PERFORMANCE PRO-
4 GRAM.—Section 119(f) of title 23, United States Code, is
5 amended—

6 (1) in the heading, by striking “CONDITIONS”
7 and inserting “CONDITIONS; SAFE AND CONVEN-
8 IENT ACCESS TO SERVICES”; and

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

10 “(3) SAFE AND CONVENIENT ACCESS TO SERV-
11 ICES ON PUBLIC ROADS.—

12 “(A) PENALTY.—Subject to subparagraph
13 (A), if a State reports, in a performance target
14 report under section 150(e), that the State has
15 not achieved the targets of the State for per-
16 formance measures described in section 150(d)
17 pertaining to the minimum standards for public
18 roads established by the Secretary under sec-
19 tion 150(e)(7), the State shall be required, dur-
20 ing the following fiscal year—

21 “(i) to obligate, from the amounts ap-
22 portioned to the State under section
23 104(b)(1), an amount equal to ten percent
24 of funds apportioned to the State for the
25 previous fiscal year for the purpose of

1 achieving the targets through projects on
2 Federal-aid highways; and

3 “(ii) to obligate, from the amounts
4 apportioned to the State under section
5 104(b)(2) (other than amounts suballo-
6 cated to metropolitan areas and other
7 areas of the State under section 133(d)),
8 an amount equal to 10 percent of the
9 amount of funds apportioned to the State
10 for the previous fiscal year for the purpose
11 of achieving the targets through projects
12 on Federal-aid highways.

13 “(B) RESTORATION.—The obligation re-
14 quirement in subparagraph (A)(i) for a fiscal
15 year shall remain in effect for each subsequent
16 fiscal year until the date on which the Secretary
17 determines that the State has achieved the tar-
18 gets of the State for performance measures de-
19 scribed in section 150(d) pertaining to the min-
20 imum standards for public roads established by
21 the Secretary under section 150(c)(7).”.

22 (b) METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING.—

23 (1) FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS.—Section 134(h)
24 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

25 (A) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs
2 (F) through (J) as subparagraphs (G)
3 through (K), respectively; and

4 (ii) by inserting after subparagraph
5 (E) the following:

6 “(F) improve safe and convenient access to
7 services by all modes of travel for all users;”
8 and

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

10 “(4) LIMITATION ON TRANSPORTATION IM-
11 PROVEMENT PLAN.—In furtherance of the planning
12 goals described in subparagraphs (F) and (G) of
13 paragraph (1), a metropolitan planning organization
14 shall not approve a transportation improvement plan
15 found to increase the ratio of automobile to non-
16 automobile access in urbanized areas.

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

18 “(A) ACCESS.—The term ‘access’ means
19 the ability to travel by auto, transit, pedestrian,
20 and bike networks measured in terms of travel
21 times, with impedances for level of travel stress
22 for active travel and costs for low income trav-
23 elers.

24 “(B) SERVICES.—The term ‘services’
25 means health care facilities, child care, edu-

1 cation and workforce training, affordable hous-
2 ing, food sources, banking and financial institu-
3 tions, and other retail shopping establish-
4 ments.”.

5 (2) PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.—Section
6 5303(h) of title 49, United States Code, is amend-
7 ed—

8 (A) in paragraph (1)—

9 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs
10 (F) through (I) as subparagraphs (G)
11 through (J), respectively; and

12 (ii) by inserting after subparagraph
13 (E) the following:

14 “(F) improve safe and convenient access to
15 services by all modes of travel for all users;”;

16 and

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

18 “(4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

19 “(A) ACCESS.—The term ‘access’ means
20 the ability to travel by auto, transit, pedestrian,
21 and bike networks measured in terms of travel
22 times, with impedances for level of travel stress
23 for active travel and costs for low income trav-
24 elers.

1 “(B) SERVICES.—The term ‘services’
2 means health care facilities, child care, edu-
3 cation and workforce training, affordable hous-
4 ing, food sources, banking and financial institu-
5 tions, and other retail shopping establish-
6 ments.”.

7 (c) STATEWIDE AND NONMETROPOLITAN TRANSPOR-
8 TATION PLANNING.—

9 (1) FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS.—Section 135(d)
10 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

11 (A) in paragraph (1)—

12 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs
13 (F) through (I) as subparagraphs (G)
14 through (J), respectively; and

15 (ii) by inserting after subparagraph
16 (E) the following:

17 “(F) improve safe and convenient access to
18 services by all modes of travel for all users;”;

19 and

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

21 “(4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

22 “(A) ACCESS.—The term ‘access’ means
23 the ability to travel by auto, transit, pedestrian,
24 and bike networks measured in terms of travel
25 times, with impedances for level of travel stress

1 for active travel and costs for low income trav-
2 elers.

3 “(B) SERVICES.—The term ‘services’
4 means health care facilities, child care, edu-
5 cation and workforce training, affordable hous-
6 ing, food sources, banking and financial institu-
7 tions, and other retail shopping establish-
8 ments.”.

9 (2) PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.—Section
10 5304(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amend-
11 ed—

12 (A) in paragraph (1)—

13 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs
14 (F) through (I) as subparagraphs (G)
15 through (J), respectively; and

16 (ii) by inserting after subparagraph
17 (E) the following:

18 “(F) improve safe and convenient access to
19 services by all modes of travel for all users;”;
20 and

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

22 “(4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

23 “(A) ACCESS.—The term ‘access’ means
24 the ability to travel by auto, transit, pedestrian,
25 and bike networks measured in terms of travel

1 times, with impedances for level of travel stress
2 for active travel and costs for low income trav-
3 elers.

4 “(B) SERVICES.—The term ‘services’
5 means health care facilities, child care, edu-
6 cation and workforce training, affordable hous-
7 ing, food sources, banking and financial institu-
8 tions, and other retail shopping establish-
9 ments.”.

10 (d) NATIONAL GOALS AND PERFORMANCE MANAGE-
11 MENT MEASURES.—Section 150 of title 23, United States
12 Code, is amended—

13 (1) in subsection (b)—

14 (A) by redesignating paragraph (7) as
15 paragraph (8); and

16 (B) by inserting after paragraph (6) the
17 following:

18 “(7) ACCESS TO SERVICES.—To improve safe
19 and convenient access to services opportunities by all
20 modes of travel for all users.”;

21 (2) in subsection (c)—

22 (A) in paragraph (1)—

23 (i) by striking “IN GENERAL—Not
24 later than” and inserting the following:

25 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than”; and

1 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(B) UPDATES.—The Secretary shall peri-
4 odically update the rulemaking promulgated
5 under subparagraph (A) as necessary, including
6 to implement the amendments made to this sec-
7 tion by the Improving Access to Services Act.”;
8 and

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

10 “(7) ACCESS TO SERVICES ON PUBLIC
11 ROADS.—For the purpose of carrying out section
12 119(f)(3), the Secretary shall establish minimum
13 standards for States to use in determining and im-
14 proving safe and convenient access to services for all
15 users by all modes of travel.”; and

16 (3) in subsection (d)(1)—

17 (A) by striking “subsection (c), each State
18 shall set” and inserting “subsection (c)(1)(A),
19 and not later than 1 year after each update of
20 the rulemaking described under subsection
21 (c)(1)(B), each State shall set or update, as ap-
22 plicable,”; and

23 (B) by striking “and (6)” and inserting
24 “(6), and (7)”.

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