

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7851

To amend title 23, United States Code, to establish additional requirements for bridge projects funded under such title, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To amend title 23, United States Code, to establish additional requirements for bridge projects funded under such title, 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 “Bridge Protection  
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BRIDGE**  
7 **PROJECTS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 23, United  
9 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
10 lowing:

1 **“§ 180. Additional requirements for bridge projects**

2 “(a) REQUIREMENTS.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition for receiving  
4 funds under this title, with respect to any project for  
5 the repair or construction of a covered bridge under  
6 this title, the Secretary of Transportation shall re-  
7 quire to the greatest extent feasible that such  
8 project include protective features designed to avert  
9 collisions along critical bridge supports.

10 “(2) PROTECTIVE FEATURES.—Protective fea-  
11 tures under paragraph (1) shall be rated for the  
12 largest size of vessel that regularly passes under  
13 such bridge.

14 “(b) COVERED BRIDGE DEFINED.—In this section,  
15 the term ‘covered bridge’ means a bridge over navigable  
16 water valued at over \$50,000,000.”.

17 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-  
18 ter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by add-  
19 ing at the end the following:

“180. Additional requirements for bridge projects.”.

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