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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national bridge replacement and improvement program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. EMMER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national bridge replacement and improvement 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 “National Bridge Re-
5 placement and Improvement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND IMPROVE-**
2 **MENT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
4 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Trans-
5 portation shall establish a national bridge replacement and
6 improvement program (in this section referred to as the
7 “Program”) to assist safety improvements for high-risk
8 intersections and interchanges.

9 (b) GRANT AUTHORITY.—In carrying out the Pro-
10 gram, the Secretary may make grants on a competitive
11 basis to covered entities.

12 (c) PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may
13 only make a grant under the Program to assist a project
14 that—

15 (1) is a bridge on a Federal-aid highway that
16 is eligible for funding under title 23, United States
17 Code; and

18 (2) will—

19 (A) restore or increase the structural ca-
20 pacity of the bridge;

21 (B) correct a major safety defect of the
22 bridge; or

23 (C) replace an existing bridge with a new
24 bridge that—

1 (i) is in the same general traffic cor-
2 ridor as the bridge being replaced, as de-
3 termined by the Secretary; and

4 (ii) meets the requirements of sub-
5 paragraph (A) or (B).

6 (d) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible for a grant under
7 the Program, a covered entity shall submit to the Sec-
8 retary an application in such form, at such time, and con-
9 taining such information as the Secretary determines is
10 appropriate.

11 (e) LIMITATION.—The aggregate amount provided to
12 a covered entity in a fiscal year through grants under the
13 Program may not exceed 5 percent of the amount made
14 available for all grants under the Program in that fiscal
15 year.

16 (f) CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.—At least 90 days be-
17 fore establishing the Program under subsection (a), the
18 Secretary shall submit to Congress a report detailing the
19 selection process the Secretary shall use in making grants
20 under the Program.

21 (g) COVERED ENTITY DEFINED.—In this section, the
22 term “covered entity” means any of the following:

- 23 (1) A State government entity.
- 24 (2) A local government entity.
- 25 (3) A territory of the United States.

1 (4) A Tribal government.

2 (5) A metropolitan planning organization.

3 (6) Any entity composed of 2 or more entities
4 described in paragraphs (1) through (5).

5 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
7 appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other
8 than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out the
9 Program \$1,000,000,000 for each fiscal year.

10 (2) APPLICABILITY OF TITLE 23, UNITED
11 STATES CODE.—Funds authorized to be appro-
12 priated by paragraph (1) shall—

13 (A) be available for obligation in the same
14 manner as if those funds were apportioned
15 under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code,
16 except that the Federal share of the cost of a
17 project or activity carried out using such funds
18 shall be 80 percent; and

19 (B) remain available until expended and
20 not be transferable.