

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1428

Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for the BUILD Discretionary Grant program, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 28, 2019

Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. MOORE, Mr. SIRES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. OMAR, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. TLAIB, and Mrs. BEATTY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for the BUILD Discretionary Grant 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 “Transportation Infra-  
5 structure for Job Creation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Investments in infrastructure create jobs  
4 while fulfilling critical needs in communities  
5 throughout the United States.

6 (2) According to the Brookings Institution,  
7 nearly 14.5 million workers—11 percent of the U.S.  
8 workforce—were employed in infrastructure jobs in  
9 2013.

10 (3) According to data from the Brookings Insti-  
11 tution, infrastructure occupations often provide more  
12 competitive and equitable wages in comparison to all  
13 jobs nationally, consistently paying up to 30 percent  
14 more to low-income workers.

15 (4) The American Society of Civil Engineers  
16 gave the infrastructure of the United States an over-  
17 all grade of “D+” in 2017 and estimated that the  
18 United States will need to invest \$4.59 trillion by  
19 2025 in order to improve the condition of the Na-  
20 tion’s infrastructure and bring it to a state of good  
21 repair.

22 (5) The American Society of Civil Engineers as-  
23 signed a “D” grade to the Nation’s roads, a “C+”  
24 grade to the Nation’s bridges, and a “D–” grade  
25 to the Nation’s transit systems and estimated that  
26 the United States will need to invest \$2.04 trillion

1 by 2025 to bring the Nation's surface transportation  
2 infrastructure to a state of good repair.

3 (6) BUILD is a nationwide competitive grant  
4 program that creates jobs by funding investments in  
5 transportation infrastructure by States, local govern-  
6 ments, and transit agencies.

7 (7) BUILD is formally known as the Better  
8 Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development  
9 (BUILD) Transportation Grants program and was  
10 previously known as the Transportation Investment  
11 Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant pro-  
12 gram.

13 (8) BUILD funds projects that will have a sig-  
14 nificant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area,  
15 or a region.

16 (9) In distributing grants under BUILD, the  
17 Secretary of Transportation is required to ensure an  
18 equitable geographic distribution of funds, a balance  
19 in addressing the needs of urban and rural areas,  
20 and investments in a variety of modes of transpor-  
21 tation.

22 (10) TIGER or BUILD received an appropria-  
23 tion of \$600,000,000 in fiscal year 2014, an appro-  
24 priation of \$500,000,000 in fiscal year 2015, an ap-  
25 propriation of \$500,000,000 in fiscal year 2016, an

1 appropriation of \$500,000,000 in fiscal year 2017,  
2 and an appropriation of \$1,500,000,000 in fiscal  
3 year 2018.

4 (11) Past appropriations for TIGER and  
5 BUILD are not sufficient to address the need for in-  
6 vestments in transportation infrastructure in com-  
7 munities throughout the United States as the  
8 amounts only fund a small fraction of the transpor-  
9 tation infrastructure projects for which grant appli-  
10 cations have been received.

11 (12) Appropriating \$7.5 billion in fiscal year  
12 2019 for BUILD and allowing the funds to remain  
13 available for 6 years will enable the Secretary of  
14 Transportation to begin immediately to expand in-  
15 vestments in transportation infrastucture throughout  
16 the United States.

17 (13) Restricting appropriations for BUILD  
18 through the use of arbitrary budget caps or seques-  
19 tration undermines economic recovery and job cre-  
20 ation efforts; disrupts planning by States, local gov-  
21 ernments, and transit agencies; and leaves critical  
22 infrastructure needs unmet.

23 (14) Emergency supplemental appropriations  
24 for BUILD, provided in addition to other appropria-  
25 tions and not subject to sequestration, will improve

1 transportation infrastructure and create jobs  
2 throughout the United States without reducing  
3 funding for other domestic priorities.

4 (15) An emergency supplemental appropriation  
5 of \$7.5 billion for BUILD to be made available in  
6 fiscal year 2019 and to remain available for 6 years  
7 will allow the Secretary of Transportation to begin  
8 immediately to organize new competitions for  
9 BUILD grants and allow States, local governments,  
10 and transit agencies to prepare grant applications,  
11 thus ensuring an efficient use of funds and timely  
12 job creation.

13 **SEC. 3. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR BUILD DIS-**  
14 **CRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM.**

15 The following sums are appropriated, out of any  
16 money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for fis-  
17 cal year 2019:

18 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

19 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

20 NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

21 For an additional amount for “National Infrastruc-  
22 ture Investments” in accordance with the provisions under  
23 this heading in title I of division K of Public Law 115–  
24 31, \$7,500,000,000, to remain available through Sep-  
25 tember 30, 2024: *Provided*, That the amount under this

1 heading is designated by the Congress as an emergency  
2 requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Bal-  
3 anced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985,  
4 except that such amount shall be available only if the  
5 President subsequently so designates such amount and  
6 transmits such designation to the Congress.

7 **SEC. 4. EXEMPTION FROM SEQUESTRATION.**

8       The appropriation in section 3 shall be exempt from  
9 sequestration under the Balanced Budget and Emergency  
10 Deficit Control Act of 1985.

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