

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2495

Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for the TIGER  
Discretionary Grant program, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2015

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California (for herself, Mr. COHEN, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CICILLINE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. KEATING, Ms. LEE, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SIRES, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. WALZ, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. HAHN, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. HECK of Washington, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. TONKO, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HIMES, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. NOLAN, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. KILDEE, and Mrs. DINGELL) 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 2016 for

the TIGER 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 “TIGER Grants for  
5 Job Creation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds the following:

8           (1) The economy is still struggling to recover  
9 from the recession. According to the Bureau of  
10 Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate is 5.4 per-  
11 cent nationwide and is significantly higher in some  
12 minority and disadvantaged communities.

13           (2) The American Society of Civil Engineers  
14 gave the public infrastructure of the United States  
15 a grade of “D+” in 2013 and estimated that we will  
16 need to invest \$3.6 trillion by 2020 in order to im-  
17 prove the condition of our Nation’s public infrastruc-  
18 ture.

19           (3) TIGER, formally known as the Transpor-  
20 tation Investment Generating Economic Recovery  
21 grant program, is a nationwide competitive grant  
22 program that creates jobs by funding investments in  
23 transportation infrastructure by States, local govern-  
24 ments, and transit agencies.

1           (4) TIGER funds projects that will have a sig-  
2           nificant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area,  
3           or a region.

4           (5) In distributing grants under TIGER, the  
5           Secretary of Transportation is required to ensure an  
6           equitable geographic distribution of funds, a balance  
7           in addressing the needs of urban and rural areas,  
8           and investments in a variety of modes of transpor-  
9           tation.

10          (6) TIGER received an appropriation of  
11          \$600,000,000 in fiscal year 2014 and an appropria-  
12          tion of \$500,000,000 in fiscal year 2015.

13          (7) Past appropriations for TIGER are not suf-  
14          ficient to address the need for investments in trans-  
15          portation infrastructure in communities throughout  
16          the United States as the amounts only fund a small  
17          fraction of the transportation infrastructure projects  
18          for which TIGER grant applications have been re-  
19          ceived.

20          (8) The President requested an appropriation of  
21          \$1.25 billion for TIGER in fiscal year 2016, as part  
22          of an expanded TIGER program that will provide  
23          \$7.5 billion for TIGER over 6 years.

24          (9) Appropriating \$7.5 billion in fiscal year  
25          2016 for TIGER and allowing the funds to remain

1 available for 6 years will enable the Secretary of  
2 Transportation to begin immediately to implement  
3 the President's proposal to expand the TIGER pro-  
4 gram.

5 (10) Restricting appropriations for TIGER  
6 through the use of arbitrary budget caps or seques-  
7 tration undermines economic recovery and job cre-  
8 ation efforts; disrupts planning by States, local gov-  
9 ernments, and transit agencies; and leaves critical  
10 infrastructure needs unmet.

11 (11) Emergency supplemental appropriations  
12 for TIGER, provided in addition to other appropri-  
13 ations and not subject to sequestration, will improve  
14 transportation infrastructure and create jobs  
15 throughout the United States without reducing  
16 funding for other domestic priorities.

17 (12) An emergency supplemental appropriation  
18 of \$7.5 billion for TIGER to be made available in  
19 fiscal year 2016 and to remain available for 6 years  
20 will allow the Secretary of Transportation to begin  
21 immediately to organize new competitions for  
22 TIGER grants and allow States, local governments,  
23 and transit agencies to prepare grant applications,  
24 thus ensuring an efficient use of funds and timely  
25 job creation.

1 **SEC. 3. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR TIGER DIS-**  
2 **CRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM.**

3 The following sums are appropriated, out of any  
4 money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for fis-  
5 cal year 2016:

6 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
7 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
8 NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

9 For an additional amount for “National Infrastruc-  
10 ture Investments” in accordance with the provisions under  
11 this heading in title I of division K of Public Law 113–  
12 235, \$7,500,000,000, to remain available through Sep-  
13 tember 30, 2021: *Provided*, That the amount under this  
14 heading is designated by the Congress as an emergency  
15 requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Bal-  
16 anced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985,  
17 except that such amount shall be available only if the  
18 President subsequently so designates such amount and  
19 transmits such designation to the Congress.

20 **SEC. 4. EXEMPTION FROM SEQUESTRATION.**

21 The appropriation in section 3 shall be exempt from  
22 sequestration under the Balanced Budget and Emergency  
23 Deficit Control Act of 1985.

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