

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4372

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a pilot program for evaluating technologies that are likely to prevent adverse weather effects associated with freezing temperatures on bridges, improve bridge safety, extend the life of bridges, and promote energy efficiency on bridges on the National Highway System.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 16, 2009

Mr. GRAVES (for himself and Mr. CLEAVER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a pilot program for evaluating technologies that are likely to prevent adverse weather effects associated with freezing temperatures on bridges, improve bridge safety, extend the life of bridges, and promote energy efficiency on bridges on the National Highway System.

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 Ice and Snow
5 Prevention Pilot Program Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation
3 shall establish and implement a pilot program to evaluate
4 the effectiveness and efficiency of the use of technologies
5 to prevent ice, snow, and other adverse weather effects as-
6 sociated with freezing temperatures on bridges on the Na-
7 tional Highway System.

8 (b) GRANT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make
10 grants to not more than 5 States to conduct projects
11 under the pilot program.

12 (2) APPLICATIONS.—A State seeking a grant
13 under the pilot program shall submit an application
14 to the Secretary in such form, and containing such
15 information, as the Secretary may require.

16 (c) ELIGIBILITY.—

17 (1) SELECTION OF HIGHWAY BRIDGES.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—In awarding grants
19 under the pilot program, the Secretary shall se-
20 lect not more than 20 highway bridges for par-
21 ticipation in the program.

22 (B) BRIDGE REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
23 retary may select a highway bridge under sub-
24 paragraph (A) only if the bridge is—

25 (i) not greater than 500 feet in
26 length; and

1 (ii) on the National Highway System.

2 (2) SELECTION OF TECHNOLOGIES.—The Sec-
3 retary shall select technologies to be tested under
4 the pilot program that are likely to improve bridge
5 safety, extend the life of a bridge, and promote en-
6 ergy efficiency.

7 (d) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share payable on
8 account of a project carried out under the pilot program
9 shall not exceed 80 percent of the cost of the project.

10 (e) DURATION OF PILOT PROGRAM.—The Secretary
11 shall carry out the pilot program for a period of no more
12 than 5 fiscal years.

13 (f) FINAL REPORT.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months
15 after the last day of the pilot program, the Secretary
16 shall submit to the Committee on Transportation
17 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
18 and the Committee on Environment and Public
19 Works of the Senate a report that describes the ef-
20 fectiveness and benefits of the technologies tested
21 under the pilot program.

22 (2) CONTENTS.—The report shall describe, at a
23 minimum, the following:

24 (A) The cost effectiveness of each tech-
25 nology used.

1 (B) The safety impacts of each technology
2 tested and of the pilot program as a whole.

3 (C) Any change in the expected life span
4 of each bridge participating in the pilot pro-
5 gram due to the technologies used.

6 (D) The net effect of the pilot program on
7 job creation or job loss.

8 (E) Recommendations for—

9 (i) an improved or expanded program,
10 if appropriate; and

11 (ii) the use of advanced bridge tech-
12 nology to prevent ice, snow, and other ad-
13 verse weather effects associated with freez-
14 ing temperatures on bridges on the Na-
15 tional Highway System.

16 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
17 out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated out
18 of the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit
19 Account) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

20 (h) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts made available to
22 carry out this section shall be available for obligation
23 in the same manner as funds apportioned under
24 chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, except
25 that the Federal share payable on account of a

1 project carried out under the pilot program shall be
2 determined in accordance with this section and such
3 funds shall not be transferable and shall remain
4 available for the duration of the pilot program.

5 (2) LIMITATION.—A State may not receive a
6 total of more than \$2,000,000 in grants under the
7 pilot program.

8 (3) PROHIBITION OF EARMARKS.—None of the
9 funds appropriated to carry out this section may be
10 used for a congressional earmark, as defined in
11 clause 9(e) of Rule XXI of the Rules of the House
12 of Representatives of the 111th Congress.

13 (i) REPORT TO CONGRESS RELATING TO COMPETITIVE
14 PROCEDURES.—If grants are awarded under this
15 section using procedures other than competitive proce-
16 dures, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report ex-
17 plaining why competitive procedures were not used.

18 **SEC. 3. DEFINITION.**

19 In this Act, the term “State” has the meaning given
20 that term in section 101(a) of title 23, United States
21 Code.

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