

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2534

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide assistance for increasing the frequency and availability of public transportation service, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 29, 2021

Mr. OSSOFF (for himself, Mr. WARNOCK, and Mr. PADILLA) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide assistance for increasing the frequency and availability of public transportation service, 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 “Expanded Transit
5 Service Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. URBANIZED AREA FORMULA GRANTS.**

7 Section 5307(a) of title 49, United States Code, is
8 amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraph
 2 (D) and inserting the following:

3 “(D) operating costs of equipment and fa-
 4 cilities for use in public transportation—

5 “(i) in an urbanized area with a popu-
 6 lation of fewer than 200,000 individuals,
 7 as determined by the Bureau of the Cen-
 8 sus; or

9 “(ii) as provided under paragraph (2),
 10 (3), or (4).”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(4) EXCEPTION FOR INCREASING THE FRE-
 13 QUENCY AND AVAILABILITY OF TRANSIT SERVICE.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A recipient in an ur-
 15 banized area with a population of not fewer
 16 than 200,000 individuals may use not more
 17 than 10 percent of the amounts made available
 18 to the recipient under this section for operating
 19 costs that increase the frequency and avail-
 20 ability of public transportation service.

21 “(B) MEASUREMENT.—Operating costs de-
 22 scribed in subparagraph (A) shall be related to
 23 increasing or maintaining the frequency and
 24 availability of public transportation service as
 25 measured by a comparison of—

1 “(i) the planned number of vehicle
2 revenue hours of service provided by the
3 recipient in the current fiscal year; to

4 “(ii) the number of vehicle revenue
5 hours of service provided by the recipient
6 in—

7 “(I) the fiscal year preceding the
8 first fiscal year in which the recipient
9 uses amounts under this paragraph;
10 or

11 “(II) a different fiscal year, as
12 determined by the Secretary, in the
13 case of emergency or disaster.

14 “(C) ELIGIBILITY.—Eligible operating
15 costs under this paragraph include costs associ-
16 ated with—

17 “(i) decreasing headways;

18 “(ii) expanding service hours or days;

19 “(iii) providing service to new routes;

20 or

21 “(iv) expanding routes.”.

○