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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 23, United States Code, to provide for funding for off-system bridges, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

A BILL

To amend title 23, United States Code, to provide for funding for off-system bridges, 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 “Support for Commu-
5 nity Bridges Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. OFF-SYSTEM BRIDGE PROGRAM.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 101(a) of title 23, United
8 States Code, is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (17) through
2 (34) as paragraphs (18) through (35); and

3 (2) by inserting after paragraph (16) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(17) OFF-SYSTEM BRIDGE.—The term ‘off-
6 system bridge’ means a highway bridge located on a
7 public road, other than a bridge on a Federal-aid
8 highway.”.

9 (b) APPORTIONMENT.—Section 104 of title 23,
10 United States Code, is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (b)—

12 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
13 by striking “and to carry out section 134” and
14 inserting “to carry out section 134, and for the
15 off-system bridge program under section 171”;

16 (B) in each of paragraphs (1), (2), and
17 (3), by striking “and (6)” and inserting “(6),
18 and (7)”;

19 (C) in paragraph (4), in the matter pre-
20 ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “set aside
21 in accordance with paragraph (5)” and insert-
22 ing “set asides in accordance with paragraphs
23 (5) and (7)”;

1 (D) in paragraph (5)(A), by inserting
2 “after making the set aside in accordance with
3 paragraph (7),” after “section 167,”;

4 (E) in paragraph (6), in the matter pre-
5 ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “set aside
6 in accordance with paragraph (5)” and insert-
7 ing “set asides in accordance with paragraphs
8 (5) and (7)”; and

9 (F) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(7) OFF-SYSTEM BRIDGE PROGRAM.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For the off-system
12 bridge program under section 171, the Sec-
13 retary shall set aside from the base apportion-
14 ment determined for a State under subsection
15 (c) an amount determined for the State under
16 subparagraphs (B) and (C).

17 “(B) TOTAL AMOUNT.—The total amount
18 set aside for the off-system bridge program for
19 all States shall be 2.5 percent of the total
20 amount made available to carry out the pro-
21 grams described in this subsection for the fiscal
22 year.

23 “(C) STATE SHARE.—

24 “(i) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal
25 year, the Secretary shall distribute among

1 States the total amount set aside under
2 subparagraph (B) so that each State re-
3 ceives an amount equal to the sum of the
4 amounts calculated for the State under
5 each of subclauses (I) and (II) of clause
6 (ii), subject to any adjustment under
7 clause (iii).

8 “(ii) INITIAL AMOUNTS.—

9 “(I) BRIDGES IN POOR CONDI-
10 TION.—75 percent of the amount re-
11 served under subparagraph (B) shall
12 be apportioned so that each State re-
13 ceives an amount equal to the propor-
14 tion that—

15 “(aa) the total deck space of
16 off-system bridges in the State
17 that are in poor condition, as de-
18 termined by the Secretary; bears
19 to

20 “(bb) the total deck space of
21 off-system bridges in all States
22 that are in poor condition, as de-
23 termined by the Secretary.

24 “(II) BRIDGES IN OTHER THAN
25 POOR CONDITION.—25 percent of the

1 amount reserved under subparagraph
2 (B) shall be apportioned so that each
3 State receives an amount equal to the
4 proportion that—

5 “(aa) the total deck space of
6 off-system bridges in the State
7 that are not in poor condition, as
8 determined by the Secretary;
9 bears to

10 “(bb) the total deck space of
11 off-system bridges in all States
12 that are not in poor condition, as
13 determined by the Secretary.

14 “(iii) ADJUSTMENTS TO AMOUNTS.—

15 “(I) DEFINITIONS.—In this
16 clause:

17 “(aa) ADJUSTMENT
18 AMOUNT.—The term ‘adjustment
19 amount’ means the total amount
20 needed for all States that do not
21 meet the requirement under sub-
22 clause (II), based on the initial
23 calculation under clause (ii), to
24 meet that requirement.

1 “(bb) INCREASE IN
2 FUNDS.—The term ‘increase in
3 funds’, with respect to a State,
4 means the amount, expressed as
5 a percentage, that—

6 “(AA) the State would
7 receive under clause (ii);
8 compared to

9 “(BB) the amount re-
10 quired to be obligated by the
11 State for fiscal year 2021
12 for off-system bridges under
13 section 133(f)(2) (as in ef-
14 fect on the day before the
15 date of enactment of the
16 Support for Community
17 Bridges Act).

18 “(II) ADJUSTMENTS.—The Sec-
19 retary shall adjust the initial amount
20 calculated for a State under clause (ii)
21 to ensure that each State receives an
22 amount that is not less than the
23 amount required to be obligated by
24 the State for fiscal year 2021 for off-
25 system bridges under section

1 133(f)(2) (as in effect on the day be-
2 fore the date of enactment of the Sup-
3 port for Community Bridges Act).

4 “(III) METHOD.—

5 “(aa) RANKING.—Before
6 making adjustments under sub-
7 clause (II), the Secretary shall
8 rank each State in descending
9 order based on the increase in
10 funds for each State.

11 “(bb) REDUCTIONS.—The
12 Secretary shall adjust amounts
13 under subclause (II) as follows:

14 “(AA) By reducing the
15 adjustment amount from the
16 highest ranked State under
17 item (aa), until the increase
18 in funds of that State is
19 equal to the increase in
20 funds of the next-highest
21 ranked State.

22 “(BB) If the amount
23 reduced under subitem (AA)
24 is less than the full adjust-
25 ment amount, by reducing

1 the remainder of the adjust-
2 ment amount from the next-
3 highest ranked State, until
4 the increase in funds of that
5 State is equal to the in-
6 crease in funds of the next-
7 highest ranked State.

8 “(CC) By repeating the
9 process described in subitem
10 (BB) for States in descend-
11 ing order based on the rank-
12 ing under item (aa) until the
13 full adjustment amount is
14 achieved.

15 “(DD) By reallocating
16 the adjustment amount to
17 the States that do not meet
18 the requirement under sub-
19 clause (II), based on the ini-
20 tial calculation under clause
21 (ii), in order to meet that re-
22 quirement.”;

23 (2) in subsection (c)(2), by striking “and to
24 carry out section 134” and inserting “to carry out

1 section 134, and for the off-system bridge program
2 under section 171”; and

3 (3) in subsection (i)(1), by striking “and to
4 carry out section 134” and inserting “to carry out
5 section 134, and for the off-system bridge program
6 under section 171”.

7 (c) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT PRO-
8 GRAM.—Section 133(f) of title 23, United States Code, is
9 amended—

10 (1) by striking the subsection designation and
11 heading and all that follows through the period at
12 the end of paragraph (2)(B);

13 (2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as sub-
14 section (f) and indenting appropriately; and

15 (3) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and
16 (B) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively, and in-
17 denting appropriately.

18 (d) OFF-SYSTEM BRIDGE PROGRAM.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 23, United
20 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
21 following:

22 **“§ 171. Off-system bridge program**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), each
24 State shall use the amount apportioned to the State under

1 section 104(b)(7) for each fiscal year for the purpose of
2 repairing and maintaining off-system bridges.

3 “(b) WAIVER.—The Secretary, after consultation
4 with State and local officials, may waive the requirement
5 under subsection (a) with respect to a State if the Sec-
6 retary determines that the State has inadequate needs to
7 justify the expenditure.

8 “(c) TREATMENT OF PROJECTS.—Notwithstanding
9 any other provision of law, a project carried out under this
10 section shall be treated as if the project were on a Federal-
11 aid highway.”.

12 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for
13 chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amend-
14 ed by adding at the end the following:

“171. Off-system bridge program.”.