Purpose: To improve local community access to transportation enhancement funding.


S. 1813

To reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on ______________________ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENTS intended to be proposed by Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. COCHRAN)

Viz:

1 On page 161, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:
2
3 "(3) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—"
4 "(A) SUBALLOCATION TO TIER I METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS.—"
5 "(i) IN GENERAL.—If a State has 1 or more Tier I metropolitan planning organi-
6 nations, of the funds reserved under paragraph (1) (minus the deductions re-
7 quired under subparagraph (C)), the State shall allocate to each Tier 1 metropolitan
planning organization an amount that is
equal to the proportion that—

“(I) the population living in the
metropolitan planning areas served by
the Tier I metropolitan planning orga-
nization; bears to

“(II) the total population of the
State.

“(ii) USE.—Amounts allocated under
clause (i) shall be used for projects to be
carried out within the boundaries of the
applicable metropolitan planning areas
served by the Tier I metropolitan planning
organization.

“(B) LOCAL ACCESS TO FUNDS.—

“(i) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTI-
TY.—In this subparagraph, the term ‘eligi-
ble entity’ means—

“(I) a local government;

“(II) a regional transportation
authority;

“(III) a transit agency;

“(IV) a natural resource or pub-
lic land agency;
“(V) a school district, local education agency, or school; and

“(VI) any other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for or oversight of transportation or recreational trails (other than a Tier 1 metropolitan planning organization or a State agency) that the State determines to be eligible, consistent with the goals of this subsection.

“(ii) AWARDS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds reserved under paragraph (1) not subject to subparagraph (A), a State shall provide annually to eligible entities, on a competitive basis, awards to carry out this subsection.

“(II) APPLICATION.—To receive a grant under this subparagraph, an eligible entity shall submit to the State an application at such time, in such form, and in such manner as the State determines to be necessary.
“(III) Population classifications.—

“(aa) In general.—If the eligible applications in any population classification under clause (II) are not sufficient to use all the funding allocated under this subparagraph, the State shall make the remaining funds available to other population classifications.

“(bb) Other eligible project.—If eligible applications across all population classifications are not sufficient to use all funding allocated under this subparagraph, the State may use the remaining funds for State projects and priorities eligible under this subsection

“(iii) Conditions.—As a condition of receiving funds under the MAP-21, a State—

“(I) shall establish reasonable timelines for the review of applications
received under clause (ii) and notification to applicants of the acceptance or denial of the applications; and

“(II) shall not withhold a grant from an eligible entity that has submitted an application under clause (ii) if—

“(aa) funds remain available to be obligated under this subsection; and

“(bb) the project for which the application is submitted is an eligible project under this subsection.

“(iv) PETITION.—An eligible entity may submit to the Secretary a petition for assistance if the eligible entity determines that the State has an established pattern of not making funds available to eligible entities in accordance with this subparagraph.

“(C) ADMINISTRATIVE PRIORITIES.—Of the funds reserved under paragraph (1) for each year, a State may use not more than 10
percent for administration and State priorities
in accordance with this subsection.

3 On page 161, line 11, strike “(3)” and insert “(4)”.

4 On page 162, line 1, strike “(4)” and “insert (5)”.

5 On page 162, line 10, strike “(5)” and insert “(6)”.