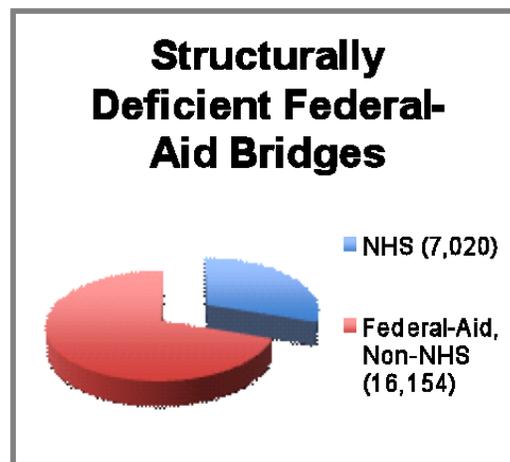
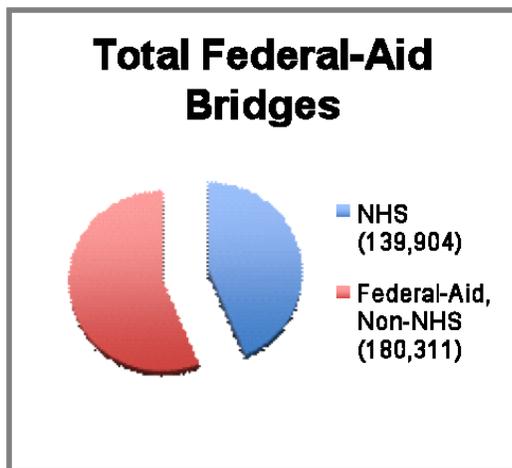


## Help Fix Federal-Aid Bridges: Support the Franken-Blunt Amendment

*~Amendment will provide states with funding flexibility to fix bridges~*

The Senate's surface transportation reauthorization bill, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (MAP-21), goes farther than any recent transportation measure to improve the condition of many of America's highways and bridges. However, the current bill does not provide adequate funding to repair and rehabilitate an important subset of America's bridges: federal-aid bridges not on the National Highway System (NHS). **Over 16,000 of these bridges are structurally deficient across the nation.**



Under current law these bridges are eligible for repair and rehab under the Highway Bridge Program (~\$5.6B). The MAP-21 proposal consolidates this funding into the National Highway Performance Program. This program is focused on improving the state of good repair of the National Highway System, but in its current form, it will ignore the over 180,000 federal-aid bridges not on the National Highway System that American's drive over every day. Across the nation, there are more than twice as many structurally deficient non-NHS, federal aid bridges than NHS bridges .

Often these federal-aid, non-NHS bridges are not State-owned. Without federal funds for repair local governments will have difficulty funding these important projects.

**Senators Franken (D-MN) and Blunt (R-MO) will offer an amendment to help ensure that America's bridges are safe and structurally sound.** Their amendment gives States the flexibility to use federal repair dollars (National Highway Performance Program funds) to fix all federal-aid bridges. Under the National Highway Performance Program, States are allowed to use up to 40% of funds to build new highways and bridges and, under certain conditions, widen federal-aid highways or expand transit systems – the amendment would also allow states to use these funds to fix federal-aid bridges, not on the NHS.

For more information on the state of our nation's bridges and bridges in your state go to [www.t4america.org/resources/bridges/](http://www.t4america.org/resources/bridges/)