AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
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OFFERED BY MRS. COMSTOCK OF VIRGINIA

Page 494, lines 13 through 18, amend paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) Restriction.—

“(A) Limitation.—A lead institution of a consortium of nonprofit institutions of higher education, as applicable, may only submit 1 grant application per fiscal year for each of the transportation centers described under paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of subsection (c).

“(B) Exception for consortium members that are not lead institutions.—

Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to a nonprofit institution of higher education that is a member of a consortium of nonprofit institutions of higher education but not the lead institution of such consortium.

Page 502, line 10, insert “, congestion, connected vehicles, connected infrastructure, and autonomous vehicles” after “transportation safety”.

SEC. 6027. TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop a 5-year transportation research and development strategic plan for fiscal years 2018 through 2022 to guide future Federal transportation research and development activities.

(b) CONSISTENCY.—The strategic plan developed under subsection (a) shall be consistent with—

(1) section 306 of title 5, United States Code;

(2) sections 1115 and 1116 of title 31, United States Code;

(3) section 508 of title 23, United States Code;

and

(4) any other research and development plan within the Department.

(c) CONTENTS.—The strategic plan developed under subsection (a) shall—

(1) describe the primary purposes of the transportation research and development program;

(2) list the proposed research and development activities that the Department intends to pursue to accomplish under the strategic plan, which may include—
(A) fundamental research pertaining to the applied physical and natural sciences;

(B) applied science and research;

(C) technology development research; and

(D) social science research; and

(3) for each research and development activity—

(A) identify the anticipated annual funding levels for the period covered by the strategic plan; and

(B) describe the research findings the Department expects to discover at the end of the period covered by the strategic plan.

(d) CONSIDERATIONS.—The Secretary shall ensure that the strategic plan developed under this section—

(1) reflects input from external stakeholders;

(2) includes and integrates the research and development programs of all of the Department’s modal administrations and joint programs;

(3) takes into account research and development by other Federal, State, local, private sector, and nonprofit institutions; and

(4) is published on a public website by December 31, 2016.

(e) REPORT.—
(1) NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL REVIEW.—

The Secretary shall enter into an agreement with
the National Research Council for a review and
analysis of the Department’s 5-year research and de-
velopment strategic plan described in this section.
By March 31, 2017, the Secretary shall publish on
a public website the National Research Council’s
analysis of the Department’s plan.

(2) INTERIM REPORT.—By June 30, 2019, the
Secretary shall publish on a public website an in-
terim report that—

(A) provides an assessment of the Depart-
ment’s 5-year research and development stra-
tegic plan described in this section that includes
a description of the extent to which the re-
search and development is or is not successfully
meeting the purposes described under sub-
section (c)(1); and

(B) addresses any concerns and identifies
any gaps that may have been raised by the Na-
tional Research Council analysis under para-
graph (1), including how the plan is or is not
responsive to the National Research Council re-
view.
SEC. 6028. TRAFFIC CONGESTION.

(a) CONGESTION RESEARCH.—The Assistant Secretary may conduct research on the reduction of traffic congestion.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—The Assistant Secretary shall—

(1) recommend research to accelerate the adoption of transportation management systems that allow traffic to flow in the safest and most efficient manner possible while alleviating current and future traffic congestion challenges;

(2) assess and analyze traffic, transit, and freight data from various sources relevant to efforts to reduce traffic congestion so as to maximize mobility, efficiency, and capacity while decreasing congestion and travel times;

(3) examine the use and integration of multiple data types from multiple sources and technologies, including road weather data, private vehicle (including Global Positioning System) data, arterial and highway traffic conditions, transit vehicle arrival and departure times, real time navigation routing, construction zone information, and reports of incidents, to suggest improvements in effective communication of such data and information in real time;
(4) develop and disseminate suggested strategies and solutions to reduce congestion for high-density traffic regions and to provide mobility in the event of an emergency or natural disaster; and

(5) collaborate with other relevant Federal agencies, State and local agencies, industry and industry associations, and university research centers to fulfill goals and objectives under this section.

(c) IDENTIFYING INFORMATION.—The Assistant Secretary shall ensure that information used pursuant to this section does not contain identifying information of any individual.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall make available on a public website a report on its activities under this section.

SEC. 6029. RAIL SAFETY.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Research and Technology may transmit to Congress a report containing—

(1) the results of a study to examine the state of rail safety technologies and an analysis of whether the passenger, commuter, and transit rail transportation industries are keeping up with innovations in
technologies to make rail cars safer for passengers and transport of commerce; and

(2) a determination of how much additional time and public and private resources will be required for railroad carriers to meet the positive train control system implementation requirements under section 20157 of title 49, United States Code.