

AMENDMENT
TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-8
OFFERED BY MR. ESPAILLAT OF NEW YORK

At the end of title V of division B, add the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . REGIONAL INNOVATION PILOT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Transpor-
3 tation, acting through the Office of Transit-Supportive
4 Communities, authorized by section 5328 of this title and
5 in consultation with the Department of Housing and
6 Urban Development, the Environmental Protection Agen-
7 cy and the Economic Development Administration shall
8 establish a regional innovation pilot program to implement
9 carbon reduction initiatives through transportation, infill
10 development, and water infrastructure investments.

11 (b) **GOALS.**—The goals of the pilot program estab-
12 lished under this section include—

- 13 (1) reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions;
14 (2) increasing economic development;
15 (3) increasing low-income and affordable hous-
16 ing;
17 (4) improving access to jobs and services;
18 (5) supporting underserved communities;

1 (6) increasing the share of non-motorized trips
2 and shortening trip lengths; and

3 (7) prioritizing infill development to support
4 multi-family and low-income housing.

5 (c) AUTHORITY.—In carrying out the program estab-
6 lished under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make
7 grants on a competitive basis to eligible entities in accord-
8 ance with this section.

9 (d) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible for a grant under
10 this section, an eligible entity shall submit to the Secretary
11 an application in such form, at such time, and containing
12 such information as the Secretary may require.

13 (e) ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS.—Grant amounts for
14 an eligible project carried out under this section may be
15 used for—

16 (1) development phase activities, including plan-
17 ning, feasibility analysis, revenue forecasting, envi-
18 ronmental review, preliminary engineering and de-
19 sign work, and other preconstruction activities;

20 (2) construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation,
21 acquisition of real property (including land related
22 to the project and improvements to such land), envi-
23 ronmental mitigation, construction contingencies, ac-
24 quisition of equipment, and operational improve-
25 ments; and

1 (3) associated infrastructure improvements
2 identified by a transit-oriented development plan as
3 outlined by section 5328(b)(2).

4 (f) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—Not later than 120 days
5 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in
6 consultation with the Departments and agencies described
7 in subsection (a) shall establish eligible projects or pro-
8 grams of projects necessary to support carbon reduction
9 initiatives, including surface transportation, wastewater,
10 drinking water, and broadband infrastructure.

11 (g) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—The following entities
12 are eligible to receive a grant under this section:

13 (1) A unit of local government, including coun-
14 ties.

15 (2) A tribal government.

16 (3) A public transit agency or authority.

17 (4) A metropolitan planning organization.

18 (5) A multi-jurisdictional group applying
19 through a single lead applicant.

20 (h) DEFINITIONS.—For the purpose of this section,
21 the term “affordable housing” means housing affordable
22 to households with incomes at or below 50 percent of area
23 medium income for a period of no less than 20 years.

24 (i) CONSIDERATIONS.—In selecting projects, the Sec-
25 retary shall—

1 (1) select projects that provide measurable re-
2 ductions in greenhouse gas emission;

3 (2) evaluate the proposal's ability to coordinate
4 stakeholders across sectors to develop and execute
5 the project;

6 (3) prioritize projects which are identified by a
7 transit-oriented development plan or carbon emission
8 reduction plan;

9 (4) prioritize projects that develop affordable
10 housing with at least 20 percent of housing units re-
11 served for, and affordable to, households with in-
12 come at or below 30 percent of the area's median in-
13 come (AMI) or less than the Federal poverty limit,
14 whichever is greater;

15 (5) prioritize projects that cannot be completed
16 without Federal support; and

17 (6) evaluate the proposal's ability to fulfill the
18 goals described under subsection (b).

19 (j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
20 authorized to be appropriated to carry out subsection (a)
21 \$250,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 to 2026.

