

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT

114-32

OFFERED BY MR. LIPINSKI OF ILLINOIS

Page 64, line 14, strike the closing quotation marks and the final period and insert the following:

1 “(f) FREIGHT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AC-
2 TIVITIES.—

3 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary may
4 support freight research and development activities.

5 “(2) PROGRAM OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.—The
6 Secretary may select a program oversight committee
7 consisting of a representative cross-section of freight
8 stakeholders, including the Department of Transpor-
9 tation, other Federal agencies, State transportation
10 departments, local governments, nonprofit entities,
11 academia, the private sector, nonprofit entities,
12 trade associations, transportation coalitions, and
13 other interested parties.

14 “(3) GOVERNANCE.—The freight research and
15 development activities authorized under this sub-
16 section may include the following administrative and
17 management elements:

1 “(A) NATIONAL RESEARCH AGENDA.—The
2 program oversight committee, in consultation
3 with interested parties, may recommend a na-
4 tional research agenda for the program. The
5 agenda may—

6 “(i) include an emphasis on the safe
7 and efficient transportation and handling
8 of hazardous materials by all modes of
9 transportation;

10 “(ii) include an emphasis on work-
11 force development programs to attract
12 more students and the next generation of
13 workers to transportation planning, engi-
14 neering, and operation carriers; and

15 “(iii) include an emphasis on collabo-
16 ration across multiple jurisdictions and be-
17 tween public and private sector funding
18 partners to develop, maintain, and invest
19 in transportation improvements.

20 “(B) INVOLVEMENT.—Interested parties
21 may—

22 “(i) submit research proposals to the
23 program oversight committee;

1 “(ii) participate in merit reviews of re-
2 search proposals and peer reviews of re-
3 search products; and

4 “(iii) receive research results.

5 “(C) OPEN COMPETITION AND PEER RE-
6 VIEW OF RESEARCH PROPOSALS.—The Sec-
7 retary may award research contracts and grants
8 under the program through open competition
9 and merit review conducted on a regular basis.

10 “(D) RESEARCH COORDINATION.—The
11 Secretary shall ensure that research contracts
12 and grants awarded under this subsection are
13 not duplicative with research conducted under
14 other cooperative transportation research pro-
15 grams governed by the Transportation Research
16 Board of the National Academies, nor with re-
17 search conducted by the Department of Trans-
18 portation or any other Federal, State, or local
19 agency.

20 “(E) EVALUATION OF RESEARCH.—

21 “(i) PEER REVIEW.—Research con-
22 tracts and grants under the program may
23 allow peer review of the research results.

1 “(ii) PROGRAMMATIC EVALUATIONS.—
2 The Secretary may conduct periodic pro-
3 grammatic evaluations on a regular basis.

4 “(F) DISSEMINATION OF RESEARCH FIND-
5 INGS.—The Secretary shall ensure that the
6 awardees disseminate research findings to re-
7 searchers, practitioners, and decisionmakers,
8 through conferences and seminars, field dem-
9 onstrations, workshops, training programs,
10 presentations, testimony to government offi-
11 cials, the Internet, publications for the general
12 public, collaboration with the National Trans-
13 portation Library, and other appropriate
14 means.

15 “(4) CONTENTS.—The national research agen-
16 da, if recommended under paragraph (3)(A), shall at
17 a minimum consider research in the following areas:

18 “(A) Techniques for measuring, esti-
19 mating, and quantifying public benefits derived
20 from freight transportation projects.

21 “(B) Approaches to calculating the con-
22 tribution of truck and rail traffic to congestion
23 on specific highway segments.

24 “(C) The feasibility of consolidating origins
25 and destinations for freight movement.

1 “(D) Methods for incorporating estimates
2 of domestic and international trade entering via
3 all mode points of entry into landside transpor-
4 tation planning.

5 “(E) The use of technology applications,
6 including to intelligent transportation systems
7 applications, to increase capacity of highway
8 lanes dedicated to truck-only traffic.

9 “(F) Development of infrastructure alter-
10 natives and policy for separating car and truck
11 traffic.

12 “(G) Means of synchronizing infrastruc-
13 ture improvement projects with freight trans-
14 portation demand projections.

15 “(H) The effect of changing patterns of
16 freight movement on transportation planning
17 decisions, including accessible private and pub-
18 lic commercial vehicle parking and truck-rail
19 crossings.

20 “(I) Methods for collecting and sharing ro-
21 bust and timely freight data by all modes to in-
22 form transportation planning and operations at
23 the local, regional, and State levels.

1 “(J) Methods to gain local acceptance of
2 freight development, expansion, and growth
3 along existing corridors, terminals, and ports.

4 “(K) Impact of the development and trans-
5 port of new sources of energy on the freight
6 network capacity and performance, as well as
7 the potential for synergistic development of new
8 transportation infrastructure with distribution
9 of energy.

10 “(L) Funding and financing alternatives
11 for multimodal freight infrastructure develop-
12 ment, as well as the cost of inaction on infra-
13 structure needs to system users.

14 “(M) Other research areas to identify and
15 address emerging and future research needs re-
16 lated to freight transportation by all modes.

17 “(5) FUNDING.—

18 “(A) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal
19 share of the cost of an activity carried out
20 under this subsection may be up to 100 per-
21 cent.

22 “(B) USE OF NON-FEDERAL FUNDS.—In
23 addition to using funds authorized for this sub-
24 section, the Secretary may seek and accept ad-
25 ditional funding sources from public and private

1 entities capable of accepting funding from the
2 Department of Transportation, States, local
3 governments, nonprofit foundations, and the
4 private sector.

5 “(C) PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY.—Amounts
6 made available to carry out this subsection shall
7 remain available until expended.”.

