AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
OF H.R. 7
OFFERED BY MS. MOORE OF WISCONSIN

After section 2024 of the bill, insert the following (and conform the table of contents of the bill accordingly):

SEC. 2025. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON BENEFITS OF FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) A strong surface transportation system requires multi-modal mobility solutions, including public transportation.

(2) Public transportation exists to provide services that efficiently and effectively meet the varied travel needs of a community and contribute to the quality of life of a community.

(3) According to a University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee report, “There is a growing consensus that strong, healthy public transit systems are essential to the economic well-being of metropolitan regions.

In making decisions about where to locate corporate headquarters or new production facilities, businesses
routinely include a region’s public transit system among the factors to be evaluated.”.

(4) Support for public transportation services has long been a Federal, State, and local funding partnership, which has helped to improve and expand access to vital services and has served as an economic engine throughout the United States.

(5) Congress began dedicating funding for public transportation in 1983, dedicating one cent per gallon of the Federal tax imposed on gasoline to public transportation funding, which has prompted State and local governments to dedicate similar funding streams.

(6) One report found that since 1983, Federal funding for public transportation increased 336 percent and that State and local funding for public transportation increased at twice such rate.

(7) Final decisions on how much public transportation service to provide are made at the State and local levels despite the funding of new systems, extensions, capital expenses, and maintenance by the Federal Government.

(8) Despite the investments at the Federal, State, and local levels made in public transportation systems, the systems continue to struggle with fi-
nancing needs, including a significant backlog of capital needs, estimated at $78,000,000,000 by the Federal Transit Administration.

(9) According to a 2011 survey conducted by the American Public Transportation Association, 71 percent of public transportation agencies experienced flat or decreased local funding and 83 percent experienced flat or decreased State funding due to the recession.

(10) Public transportation supports job creation and healthy economies in communities throughout the United States.

(11) One of the greatest demands of business is for investment in public transportation that efficiently and effectively connects workers with jobs.

(12) Nearly 30,000,000 trips are made every day using public transportation.

(13) Nearly 60 percent of the trips on public transportation are taken for commuting to work.

(14) According to the Brookings Institute, recent statistics show that the share of individuals commuting to work in the United States via public transportation grew during the 2000s.

(15) A 2004 study by the Center for Economic Development at the University of Wisconsin–Mil-
waukeen found that because low-income individuals
frequently do not have access to an automobile, ef-
fective public transportation is often crucial in bridg-
ing the gap between the inner-city locations of low-
income populations and the increasingly suburban
locations of job opportunities.

(16) According to experts, funding to help sus-
tain the operations and maintenance of public trans-
portation systems could do more to create jobs in
the short term than expenditures for capital invest-
ments.

(17) According to a report issued by the Brook-
ings Institute, “[T]ransportation matters for estab-
lishing a broad-based economic recovery. Improving
transportation connections to jobs enhances the effi-
ciency of labor markets for both workers and em-
ployers.”

(18) In 2011, 79 percent of public transpor-
tation ballot initiatives passed and since 2000, 73
percent of transportation-oriented ballot measures
have passed.

(19) Demand for public transportation will con-
tinue to increase as roads in the United States grow
more congested due to population growth.
(20) By 2050, it is estimated that the United States population will grow by 100,000,000.

(21) Because public transportation ridership continues to increase and new technological advances, such as real-time arrival data make public transportation more user-friendly, the role of the Federal Government as a dependable partner in funding public transportation is crucial.

(22) The Alternative Transportation Account of the Highway Trust Fund (formerly the Mass Transit Account), created during the administration of President Ronald Reagan, to provide dedicated, multiyear funding for public transportation investments has provided a reliable and effective source of Federal investment in public transportation.

(23) Without a continued, dedicated source of funding at the Federal, State, and local levels, public transportation systems are likely to continue to face rising fares and service cuts.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) Federal investment in public transportation benefits the public transportation system in the United States and all users of such system; and
(2) revenues for the Alternative Transportation Account should continue to be dedicated to Federal investment in public transportation.