AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 114-32

OFFERED BY MR. CULBERSON OF TEXAS

Page 281, line 22, after “hours” insert the following: “and for fee-paying single occupancy vehicles during non-peak hours”.

At the end of title III, insert the following:

1 SEC. 31. FIXED GUIDEWAY CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS.

2 Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal law, if any funds under section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, are scheduled to be provided to Houston Metro (Texas) under the full funding grant agreements for the North Corridor LRT project and the Southeast Corridor LRT project remain unexpended after Houston Metro has completed all scope and activities for such projects, the Secretary shall make such funds available to Houston Metro for use on the proposed 90A rail corridor, including costs associated with compliance with National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4231 et seq.) requirements, alternative analysis and preliminary engineering.
SEC. 3. COST SHARE.

Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal law—

(1) for purposes of calculating the local share of the total project cost under section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, and for purposes of evaluating the degree of local financial commitment under such section, for Houston Metro’s commuter rail fixed guideway project along route 90A, the Secretary shall include all local funds expended by Houston Metro on the East End Rail Line project and allow such local funds to be used to meet the local share requirement under section 5309 for this project, except that this provision shall apply first to the 90A project and any remaining balance to other eligible rail capital projects; and

(2) the new starts share required for such Houston Metro projects shall be the share specified in section 5309(l)(1).

SEC. 3. NEW BUS CAPITAL PROGRAM.

(a) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary may make grants under this section to designated recipients to assist in the financing of bus and bus facilities capital projects, including—

(1) replacing, rehabilitating, purchasing, or leasing buses or related equipment; and
(2) rehabilitating, purchasing, constructing, or leasing bus-related facilities.

(b) GRANT CONSIDERATIONS.—In making grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider the age and condition of buses, bus fleets, related equipment, and bus-related facilities.

(e) STATEWIDE APPLICATIONS.—A State may submit a statewide application on behalf of a public agency or private nonprofit organization engaged in public transportation in rural areas or other areas for which the State allocates funds. The submission of a statewide application shall not preclude the submission and consideration of any application under this subsection from other eligible entities in an urbanized area in a State.

(d) REQUIREMENTS OF THE SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall—

(1) disclose all metrics and evaluation procedures to be used in considering grant applications under this subsection upon issuance of the notice of funding availability in the Federal Register; and

(2) publish a summary of final scores for selected projects, metrics, and other evaluations used in awarding grants under this section in the Federal Register.
(c) Rural Projects.—Not less than 10 percent of the amounts made available under this section in a fiscal year shall be distributed to projects in rural areas.

(f) Grant Requirements.—

(1) In general.—A grant under this section shall be subject to the requirements of—

(A) section 5307 for recipients of grants made in urban areas; and

(B) section 5311 for recipients of grants made in rural areas.

(2) Government share of costs.—The Government share of the cost of an eligible project carried out under this section shall not exceed 80 percent.

(g) Availability of Funds.—Any amounts made available to carry out this subsection—

(1) shall remain available for 5 fiscal years after the fiscal year for which the amount is made available; and

(2) that remain unobligated at the end of the period described in subparagraph (A) shall be added to the amount made available to an eligible project in the following fiscal year.
(h) LIMITATION.—Of the amounts made available under this subsection, not more than 20 percent may be awarded to a single grantee.