AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-54

OFFERED BY MRS. TORRES OF CALIFORNIA

Page 499, after line 22, add the following:

SEC. 163. GAO REVIEW OF EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS AT STATE DOTS.

(a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall undertake a review of the extent to which State departments of transportation have in place best practices, standards, and protocols designed to ensure equity considerations in transportation planning, project selection, and project delivery, including considerations of the diverse transportation needs of low-income populations, minority populations, women, and other diverse populations.

(b) EVALUATION.—After the completion of the review under subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall issue and make available on a publicly accessible Website a report detailing—

(1) findings based on the review in subsection (a);

(2) a comprehensive set of recommendations for State departments of transportation to improve eq-
uity considerations, which may include model legisla-
tion, best practices, or guidance; and

(3) any recommendations to Congress for addi-
tional statutory authority needed to support State
department of transportation efforts to incorporate
equity considerations into transportation planning,
project selection, and project delivery.

(c) REPORT.—After completing the review and eval-
uation required under subsections (a) and (b), and not
later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act,
the Comptroller General shall make available on a publicly
accessible Website, a report that includes—

(1) findings based on the review conducted
under subsection (a);

(2) the outcome of the evaluation conducted
under subsection (b);

(3) a comprehensive set of recommendations to
improve equity considerations in the public transpor-
tation industry, including recommendations for stat-
tutory changes if applicable; and

(4) the actions that the Secretary of Transpor-
tation could take to effectively address the rec-
ommendations provided under paragraph (3).

Page 872, after line 24, add the following:
SEC. 511. TRANSPORTATION EQUITY RESEARCH PROGRAM.

(a) In General.—The Secretary of Transportation shall carry out a transportation equity research program for research and demonstration activities that focus on the impacts that surface transportation planning, investment, and operations have on low-income populations, minority populations, women, and other underserved populations that may be dependent on public transportation. Such activities shall include research on surface transportation equity issues, the development of strategies to advance economic and community development in public transportation-dependent populations, and the development of training programs that promote the employment of low-income populations, minority populations, women, and other underserved populations on Federal-aid transportation projects constructed in their communities.

(b) Authorization of Appropriations.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2025.

(c) Availability of Amounts.—Amounts made available to the Secretary to carry out this section shall remain available for a period of 3 years beginning after the last day of the fiscal year for which the amounts are authorized.
SEC. 550.—GAO REVIEW OF DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAMS.

(a) In General.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Appropriations and Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Environment and Public Works; Appropriations; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a review of the extent to which the Secretary is considering the needs of and awarding funding through covered discretionary grant programs to projects that serve—

(1) (A) low-income communities;
(2) minority communities; and
(3) populations that are underserved or have limited transportation choices, including women.

(b) Recommendations.—The Comptroller General shall include as part of the review under subsection (a) recommendations to the Secretary on possible means to improve consideration of projects that serve the unique needs of communities described in subsection (a)(1).

(c) Definition of Covered Discretionary Grant Program.—For purposes of this section, the term
“covered discretionary grant programs” means the Projects of National and Regional Significance program under section 117 of title 23, the Community Transportation Investment Grant program under section 173 of such title, the Community Climate Innovation Grant program under section 172 of such title, and the grants for fueling and charging infrastructure under section 151 of such title.