AMENDMENT TO RULES
COMMITTEE PRINT 117–8
OFFERED BY MR. WENSTRUP OF OHIO

Page 705, after line 3, insert the following:

SEC. 1640. LARGE BRIDGES INVESTMENT PROGRAM.

(a) Establishment.—The Secretary of Transportation shall establish a competitive grant program (referred to in this section as the “Program”) to award grants to eligible entities for highway bridge replacement and rehabilitation projects.

(b) Eligible Entities.—

(1) In general.—The Secretary may make a grant under the Program to—

(A) a State or a group of States; or

(B) a Federal land management agency.

(2) Applications.—To be eligible for a grant under the Program, an entity specified in paragraph (1) shall submit to the Secretary an application in such form, at such time, and containing such information as the Secretary determines is appropriate.

(c) Eligible Projects.—The Secretary may award a grant under the Program only for a highway bridge replacement or rehabilitation project that is—
(1) for a large bridge that does not cross an international border; and

(2) carried out on—

(A) the National Highway System; or

(B) the National Highway Freight Network established under section 167 of title 23, United States Code.

(d) ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS.—A grant received for a project under this section may be used for—

(1) development phase activities, including planning, feasibility analysis, revenue forecasting, environmental review, preliminary engineering and design work, and other preconstruction activities; and

(2) replacement, rehabilitation, acquisition of real property (including land related to the project and improvements to the land), environmental mitigation, construction contingencies, and operational improvements directly related to implementing electronic tolling.

(e) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In selecting eligible projects to receive grants under the Program, the Secretary shall consider the extent to which a project, relative to other projects submitted in response to a Notice of Funding Opportunity—

(1) serves a significant number of users;
(2) utilizes non-Federal contributions;

(3) utilizes nontraditional financing, innovative design and construction techniques, or innovative technologies;

(4) spans at least 1 border between 2 States;

(5) rehabilitates or replaces a large bridge that—

(A) is classified as in poor condition;

(B) is load posted; or

(C) does not meet current geometric design standards;

(6) will improve resiliency; and

(7) facilitates transfer of bridge ownership from the Federal government to a non-Federal entity.

(f) Electronic Tolling.—Any toll facility located on a bridge receiving a grant under this section shall, upon completion of the project funded with such grant—

(1) utilize only electronic toll collection; and

(2) implement technologies or business practices that provide for the regional interoperability of electronic toll collection programs, to the extent practicable.

(g) Federal Share.—

(1) In general.—A grant under the Program shall not exceed 50 percent of the cost of a project.
Subject to the limitation in paragraph (2), Federal assistance other than a grant under the Program may be used for the remainder of the cost of the project.

(2) **MAXIMUM FEDERAL INVOLVEMENT.**—The total Federal assistance provided for a project receiving a grant under the Program shall not exceed 80 percent of the cost of a project.

(3) **FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any Federal funds other than those made available under title 23 or title 49, United States Code, may be used to pay the non-Federal share of the cost of a project carried out by a Federal land management agency with a grant under the Program.

(h) **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.**—The Secretary may use not more than 2 percent of the amounts made available for the Program for each fiscal year to pay the administrative expenses of the Program.

(i) **APPLICABILITY OF TITLE 23, UNITED STATES CODE.**—Funds made available to carry out this section shall be administered as if apportioned under chapter I of title 23, United States Code.

(j) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section, the following definitions apply:
(1) LARGE BRIDGE.—The term “large bridge” means a bridge—

(A) with total deck area of 400,000 square feet or more; or

(B) with a main span of 500 feet or more.

(2) STATE.—The term “State” means any of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico.