

**AMENDMENT TO TRANSPORTATION AND HUD
APPROPRIATIONS BILL
OFFERED BY MR. ZINKE OF MONTANA**

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert
the following:

1 TITLE V

2 AM RADIO FOR EVERY VEHICLE

3 **SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This title may be cited as the “AM Radio for Every
5 Vehicle Act of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 502. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this title:

8 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
9 trator” means the Administrator of the Federal
10 Emergency Management Agency.

11 (2) AM BROADCAST BAND.—The term “AM
12 broadcast band” means the band of frequencies be-
13 tween 535 kilohertz and 1705 kilohertz, inclusive.

14 (3) AM BROADCAST STATION.—The term “AM
15 broadcast station” means a radio broadcast sta-
16 tion—

1 (A) licensed by the Federal Communica-
2 tions Commission for the dissemination of radio
3 communications intended to be received by the
4 public; and

5 (B) operated on a channel in the AM
6 broadcast band.

7 (4) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
8 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
9 gress” means—

10 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
11 and Transportation of the Senate;

12 (B) the Committee on Homeland Security
13 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

14 (C) the Committee on Transportation and
15 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

16 (D) the Committee on Homeland Security
17 of the House of Representatives; and

18 (E) the Committee on Energy and Com-
19 merce of the House of Representatives.

20 (5) COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—The term
21 “Comptroller General” means the Comptroller Gen-
22 eral of the United States.

23 (6) DEVICE.—The term “device” means a piece
24 of equipment or an apparatus that is designed—

1 (A) to receive signals transmitted by a
2 radio broadcast station; and

3 (B) to play back content or programming
4 derived from those signals.

5 (7) DIGITAL AUDIO AM BROADCAST STATION.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “digital
7 audio AM broadcast station” means an AM
8 broadcast station that uses an In Band On
9 Channel DAB System (as defined in section
10 73.402 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations
11 (or a successor regulation)) for broadcasting
12 purposes.

13 (B) EXCLUSION.—The term “digital audio
14 AM broadcast station” does not include an All-
15 digital AM station (as defined in section 73.402
16 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or a
17 successor regulation)).

18 (8) IPAWS.—The term “IPAWS” means the
19 public alert and warning system of the United
20 States described in section 526 of the Homeland Se-
21 curity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 321o).

22 (9) MANUFACTURER.—The term “manufac-
23 turer” has the meaning given the term in section
24 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

1 (10) PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term
2 “passenger motor vehicle” has the meaning given
3 the term in section 32101 of title 49, United States
4 Code.

5 (11) RADIO BROADCAST STATION.—The term
6 “radio broadcast station” has the meaning given the
7 term in section 3 of the Communications Act of
8 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

9 (12) RADIO STATION LICENSE.—The term
10 “radio station license” has the meaning given the
11 term in section 3 of the Communications Act of
12 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

13 (13) RECEIVE.—The term “receive” means to
14 receive a broadcast signal via over-the-air trans-
15 mission.

16 (14) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
17 means the Secretary of Transportation.

18 (15) SIGNAL.—The term “signal” means radio
19 frequency energy that a holder of a radio station li-
20 cense intentionally emits or causes to be emitted at
21 a specified frequency for the purpose of transmitting
22 content or programming to the public.

23 (16) STANDARD EQUIPMENT.—The term
24 “standard equipment” means motor vehicle equip-

1 ment (as defined in section 30102(a) of title 49,
2 United States Code) that—

3 (A) is installed as a system, part, or com-
4 ponent of a passenger motor vehicle as origi-
5 nally manufactured; and

6 (B) the manufacturer of the passenger
7 motor vehicle recommends or authorizes to be
8 included in the passenger motor vehicle for no
9 additional or separate monetary fee, payment,
10 or surcharge, beyond the base price of the pas-
11 senger motor vehicle.

12 (17) STATE.—The term “State” means each
13 State of the United States, the District of Columbia,
14 each commonwealth, territory, or possession of the
15 United States, and each federally recognized Indian
16 Tribe.

17 **SEC. 503. AM BROADCAST STATIONS RULE.**

18 (a) RULE REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after
19 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in con-
20 sultation with the Administrator and the Federal Commu-
21 nications Commission, shall issue a rule—

22 (1) requiring devices that can receive signals
23 and play content transmitted by AM broadcast sta-
24 tions be installed as standard equipment in pas-
25 senger motor vehicles—

1 (A) manufactured in the United States for
2 sale in the United States, imported into the
3 United States, or shipped in interstate com-
4 merce; and

5 (B) manufactured after the effective date
6 of the rule;

7 (2) requiring access to AM broadcast stations
8 through the devices required under paragraph (1) in
9 a manner that is easily accessible to drivers; and

10 (3) allowing a manufacturer to comply with
11 that rule by installing devices as described in para-
12 graph (1) that can receive signals and play content
13 transmitted by digital audio AM broadcast stations.

14 (b) COMPLIANCE.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
16 graph (2), in issuing the rule required under sub-
17 section (a), the Secretary shall establish an effective
18 date for the rule that is not less than 2 years, but
19 not more than 3 years, after the date on which the
20 rule is issued.

21 (2) CERTAIN MANUFACTURERS.—In issuing the
22 rule required under subsection (a), the Secretary
23 shall establish an effective date for the rule that is
24 at least 4 years after the date on which the rule is
25 issued with respect to manufacturers that manufac-

1 tured not more than 40,000 passenger motor vehi-
2 cles for sale in the United States in 2022.

3 (c) INTERIM REQUIREMENT.—For passenger motor
4 vehicles manufactured after the date of enactment of this
5 Act and manufactured in the United States for sale in
6 the United States, imported into the United States, or
7 shipped in interstate commerce during the period begin-
8 ning on the day after the date of enactment of this Act
9 and ending on the day before the effective date of the rule
10 issued under subsection (a) that do not include devices
11 that can receive signals and play content transmitted by
12 AM broadcast stations, the manufacturer of the passenger
13 motor vehicles—

14 (1) shall provide clear and conspicuous labeling
15 to inform purchasers of those passenger motor vehi-
16 cles that the passenger motor vehicles do not include
17 devices that can receive signals and play content
18 transmitted by AM broadcast stations; and

19 (2) may not charge an additional or separate
20 monetary fee, payment, or surcharge, beyond the
21 base price of the passenger motor vehicles, for access
22 to AM broadcast stations for the period described in
23 this subsection.

24 (d) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—After the date
25 of enactment of this Act, a State or a political subdivision

1 of a State may not prescribe or continue in effect a law,
2 regulation, or other requirement applicable to access to
3 AM broadcast stations in passenger motor vehicles.

4 (e) ENFORCEMENT.—

5 (1) CIVIL PENALTY.—Any person who violates
6 the rule issued under subsection (a) shall be liable
7 to the United States Government for a civil penalty
8 under section 30165(a)(1) of title 49, United States
9 Code, as if that rule were a regulation described in
10 that section.

11 (2) CIVIL ACTION.—The Attorney General may
12 bring a civil action under section 30163 of title 49,
13 United States Code, in an appropriate district court
14 of the United States to enjoin a violation of the rule
15 issued under subsection (a) of this section, as if that
16 rule were a regulation described in subsection (a)(1)
17 of that section 30163.

18 (f) GAO STUDY.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General
20 shall conduct a comprehensive study on dissemi-
21 nating emergency alerts and warnings to the public.

22 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The study required
23 under paragraph (1) shall include—

24 (A) an assessment of—

1 (i) the role of passenger motor vehi-
2 cles in IPAWS communications, including
3 by providing access to AM broadcast sta-
4 tions;

5 (ii) the advantages, effectiveness, limi-
6 tations, resilience, and accessibility of ex-
7 isting IPAWS communication technologies,
8 including AM broadcast stations in pas-
9 senger motor vehicles;

10 (iii) the advantages, effectiveness, limi-
11 tations, resilience, and accessibility of AM
12 broadcast stations relative to other IPAWS
13 communication technologies in passenger
14 motor vehicles; and

15 (iv) whether other IPAWS commu-
16 nication technologies are capable of ensur-
17 ing the President (or a designee) can reach
18 at least 90 percent of the population of the
19 United States at a time of crisis, including
20 at night; and

21 (B) a description of any ongoing efforts to
22 integrate new and emerging technologies and
23 communication platforms into the IPAWS
24 framework.

1 (3) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—In conducting
2 the study required under paragraph (1), the Comp-
3 troller General shall consult with—

4 (A) the Secretary of Homeland Security;

5 (B) the Federal Communications Commis-
6 sion;

7 (C) the National Telecommunications and
8 Information Administration;

9 (D) the Secretary;

10 (E) Federal, State, Tribal, territorial, and
11 local emergency management officials;

12 (F) first responders;

13 (G) technology experts in resilience and ac-
14 cessibility;

15 (H) radio broadcasters;

16 (I) manufacturers of passenger motor vehi-
17 cles; and

18 (J) other relevant stakeholders, as deter-
19 mined by the Comptroller General.

20 (4) BRIEFING AND REPORT.—

21 (A) BRIEFING.—Not later than 1 year
22 after the date of enactment of this Act, the
23 Comptroller General shall brief the appropriate
24 committees of Congress on the results of the
25 study required by paragraph (1), including rec-

1 ommendations for legislation and administrative
2 action as the Comptroller General determines
3 appropriate.

4 (B) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days
5 after the date on which the Comptroller General
6 provides the briefing required under subpara-
7 graph (A), the Comptroller General shall sub-
8 mit to the appropriate committees of Congress
9 a report describing the results of the study re-
10 quired under paragraph (1), including rec-
11 ommendations for legislation and administrative
12 action as the Comptroller General determines
13 appropriate.

14 (g) REVIEW.—Not less frequently than once every 5
15 years after the date on which the Secretary issues the rule
16 required by subsection (a), the Secretary, in coordination
17 with the Administrator and the Federal Communications
18 Commission, shall submit to the appropriate committees
19 of Congress a report that shall include an assessment of—

20 (1) the impacts of the rule issued under that
21 subsection, including the impacts on public safety;
22 and

23 (2) possible changes to IPAWS communication
24 technologies that would enable resilient and acces-

- 1 sible alerts to drivers and passengers of passenger
- 2 motor vehicles.

