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Chairman

**October 5, 2015**

## **CONGRESS APPROVES SHORT TERM CONTINUING RESOLUTION MEASURE AND AVERTS GOVERNMENT SHUT DOWN**

Hours before the September 30, 2015 midnight deadline, Congress approved a stopgap spending measure to fund the federal government at the federal fiscal year 2015 appropriation levels. The temporary Continuing Resolution legislation will finance federal programs through December 11, 2015. To date, the House has passed a number of appropriation bills while Senate Committees have moved only a few spending bills.

Congressional budget negotiations will have to resume shortly in order to avoid a government shutdown on December 12th. Automatic spending cuts to all federal programs are in effect while Republican leaders are seeking to increase military spending and the President and Democrats want to increase spending on domestic programs. This will complicate negotiations unless Congressional leaders can find longer-term savings elsewhere in the budget.

The short term Continuing Resolution is good news for Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF programs. Currently the Clean Water SRF FY 2015 program is funded at \$1.448 billion and the Safe Drinking Water SRF spending is \$906 million. Both the House and Senate have proposed spending cuts to these construction programs for federal fiscal year 2016. Under the Continuing Resolution, the higher FY 2015 spending levels will continue.

Coalition representatives will continue to focus efforts on supporting a continuing resolution while advocating for increased funding in the Senate.

## **HOUSE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEMOCRAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS WORK TO DRAFT CLEAN WATER REAUTHORIZATION MEASURE**

Democratic members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee have drafted a Clean Water reauthorization bill that substantially increases funding for the Clean Water SRF. The five-year reauthorization measure provides funding at \$2.4 billion for FY 2016, \$2.7 billion for FY 2017, \$2.8 billion for FY 2018, \$2.9 billion for FY 2019 and \$3 billion for FY 2020. The proposal also authorizes an additional \$500 million each year (\$2.5 billion total) for sewer overflow grants. House T & I Committee Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA) has stated that after the Federal Transportation program is renewed, the Committee will focus its attention to reauthorizing the Clean Water Act.

The Coalition was asked to provide comments on the draft bill which the Coalition sent to the Committee in September.

## **FEDERAL ADVOCATES REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2015**

Attached with this notice is Federal Advocates October 2015 report.

- AGC of America
- AGC of Texas
- Alabama Utility Contractors Association
- Associated Pennsylvania Constructors
- Associated Utility Contractors Of Maryland \*
- Connecticut Construction Industries Association
- CIC of Westchester County & Hudson Valley \*
- Engineering Contractors Association
- General Contractors Association Of New York
- Indiana Construction Association
- Long Island Contractors Association
- Maryland Transportation Builders & Materials Association
- Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association
- Minnesota Utility Contractors Association\*
- National Rural Water Association
- Ohio Contractors Association
- Public Works Contractors Association of Maryland
- Southern California Contractors Association
- Tennessee Road Builders Association
- Underground Contractors Association of Illinois \*
- United Contractors \*
- UCA of Anne Arundel County
- Utility Contractors Association of New England \*
- Utility & Transportation Contractors Association of New Jersey \*
- Contractors Association Of West Virginia
- Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association

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## *October 2015 Insights*

### **T&I Clean Water Authorization Draft**

The Democrats on the House Transportation and Infrastructure have drafted a bill that reauthorizes the Clean Water SRF at \$2.4B for FY16, \$2.7B for FY17, \$2.8B for FY18, \$2.9B for FY19, and \$3.0B for FY20. The draft bill also authorizes \$500M for each of FY16-20 for sewer overflow control grants, and \$50M for each of FY16-20 for alternative water source pilot projects. The Coalition was asked to submit its comment on the draft. Those have been filed and emailed to Coalition members as well as a copy of the draft bill. The Committee is currently reviewing the comments that it received.

### **Continuing Resolution**

The Senate is expected to vote tonight (Monday) to prevent a government shutdown. Last Thursday, the Senate voted down a funding measure that included language to de-fund Planned Parenthood, after which Majority Leader McConnell filed a new version of the funding bill through December 11 without that provision. The House would have 48 hours after the Senate acts to pass a clean Continuing Resolution and get it to the President to stop a shutdown. House Republican leaders are on track to vote first on a bill de-funding Planned Parenthood, which will stall once it passes the House. That will be followed, it is expected, by a vote on a clean Continuing Resolution. CRs, which typically fund programs at the current funding levels (that could actually be good news for some programs that are proposed to be cut in FY16) are triggered when one, some or all of the annual appropriations bills are not enacted by October 1. To date, the House has passed a number of the annual federal agency appropriations bills. The Senate has not yet passed any of its bills because the Senate Democratic leadership is threatening to filibuster floor debate on any bill funded under sequestration. Funding levels cannot be increased unless Congress can identify additional revenue - which is easier said than done.

Many in Congress are calling for a bipartisan budget deal, similar to the one in 2013, which would allow an increase in the discretionary spending caps and eliminate the need for sequestration.

### **FY16 House Energy and Water Appropriations Bill**

On May 1, the House passed H.R. 2028, its version of the FY16 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill. To review, the FY16 budget request for the Civil Works program of the Corps of Engineers is \$4,732,000,000, a decrease of \$722,500,000 from FY15. After adjusting for the rescission of \$28,000,000 of prior-year appropriations in the FY15 Act, the budget request represents a reduction from FY15 of \$750,500,000 (¥14%). Each of the four main project-based accounts would see a sharp decrease under the budget request. The Construction

account would see the largest dollar reduction (\$467,489,000) and largest percentage reduction (29%). The Investigations, Mississippi River and Tributaries, and Operation and Maintenance accounts are reduced by 20, 26, and 7 percent, respectively.

### **FY16 Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Bill**

On May 21, the Senate Committee on Appropriations approved its version of the FY16 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill, a \$35.4 billion measure that represents a \$1.2 billion increase over the FY15 enacted level and \$668 million below the President's budget.

Army Corps of Engineers – \$5.5 billion, an increase of \$45 million above the FY15 enacted level and \$768 million above the President's budget request. The bill provides \$2.5 billion for navigation projects and studies, including \$1.254 billion in funding from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.

Environmental Cleanup – \$6.0 billion for DOE environmental management activities, \$167 million above the FY15 enacted level, including \$5.2 billion for Defense Environmental Cleanup to continue remediation of sites contaminated by previous nuclear weapons production.

Energy Programs – \$10.5 billion, an increase of \$270 million above the FY15 enacted level and \$1.1 billion below the President's request.

### **FY16 House and Senate Interior Appropriations Bill**

House and Senate Appropriations bills are calling for drastic cuts to clean water and drinking water funding. The House bill, H.R. 2822, as approved by the Appropriations Committee on June 16, provides \$1.018B for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and \$757M for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). The Senate bill, S.1645 approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee on June 18, provides \$1.047B for the CWSRF and \$776M for the DWSRF. Given these levels, our focus is to support a continuing resolution so that both SRF's are funded at the higher FY15 levels.

### **President's FY16 Budget Infrastructure Items**

Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water SRF's: reduces the FY15 Clean Water SRF (\$1.448B) by \$332M to \$1.116B and increases the FY15 Safe Drinking Water SRF (\$906M) by \$280M to \$1.186B.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: increases \$171M from \$4.56B to \$4.73B, with funding primarily for aquatic ecosystem and inland navigation construction programs.

Department of Transportation: proposes a major increase in funding to \$478B, up from \$302B, and extends the length of the proposed reauthorization from four years to six years.

### **FY16 House Transportation Appropriations Bill**

On June 9, the House passed H.R. 2577, its version of the FY16 Transportation Appropriations bill.

Highways – \$40.25 billion, equal to the fiscal year 2015 level.

Air – \$15.9 for the Federal Aviation Administration – \$159 million above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level and \$40 million above the request.

Rail – The Federal Railroad Administration is funded at \$1.4 billion, a reduction of \$262 million

below the fiscal year 2015 enacted level. This includes \$289 million for Amtrak operations – continuing service for all current routes – and \$850 million for capital grants.

Transit –\$10.7 billion for the Federal Transit Administration – \$161 million below the fiscal year 2015 enacted level.

Maritime - \$361 million for the Maritime Administration, \$19.8 million above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level..

Safety – funding for the various transportation safety programs and agencies within the Department of Transportation. This includes \$837 million in total budgetary resources for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) – an increase of \$6.5 million over the fiscal year 2015 enacted level – and \$572 million for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Grants – funds TIGER grants at \$100 million, \$400 million below the fiscal year 2015 enacted level and \$1.15 billion below the request.

### **FY16 Senate Transportation Appropriations Bill**

On June 25, the Senate Appropriations Committee reported its version of the FY16 Transportation Appropriations Bill.

TIGER Grants – \$500 million, equal to the FY2015 enacted level, for TIGER grants.

Highway Trust Fund – \$40.26 billion, equal to the FY2015 enacted level.

Federal Aviation Administration – \$16 billion in total budgetary resources for the FAA, \$294 million above the FY2015 enacted level and \$175 million above the request.

Federal Railroad Administration – \$1.68 billion, an increase of \$53 million above the FY2015 enacted level. This includes \$289 million for Amtrak operations and continued service for all current routes, and \$1.1 billion for capital grants.

Rail Safety and Research Programs – \$288 million, \$12 million above the FY2015 enacted level for rail safety and research programs, including inspectors and training.

Federal Transit Administration – \$10.5 billion, \$424 million below the FY2015 enacted level.

Maritime Administration – \$373 million, \$32 million above the FY2015 enacted level.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration – \$825 million.

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration – \$572 million.

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration – \$246 million to address safety concerns related to recent pipeline and crude oil by rail accidents

### **MAP-21 Reauthorization**

Congress returned on September 8 following its five-week summer recess with a full agenda and with respect to certain issues, an urgent agenda. One such time sensitive issue is the passing of a multi-year surface transportation bill. Right before adjourning for the August recess, Congress

passed another short-term extension of MAP-21, this one through October 29, 2015. The bill, H.R. 3236, reauthorizes the existing federal highway and transit programs for an additional three months. However, it includes enough new revenue - \$8B in transfers from the General Fund to the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) - to fund the programs through January and possibly February of next year, according to recent estimates by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The goal of the extension was to give the House enough time to draft and act on a companion bill to the Senate DRIVE Act, the multi-year surface transportation reauthorization bill that the Senate passed on July 30. The issue is now before the House of Representatives. The original plan was for the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (with jurisdiction over highways, highway safety, transit, and rail) to report its version of the bill on September 17 to be followed the next week by markup of the House Energy and Commerce Committee (with jurisdiction over motor vehicle safety issues) and then Floor consideration by the full House the end of September. That schedule was intended to provide enough time to conference with the Senate and still meet the current Oct. 29 expiration deadline. However, that all came to a grinding halt until the House Ways and Means Committee formulates a revenue proposal to fund a six-year bill. Best case for Ways and Means doing so is mid-October pushing everything back and making the Oct 29 deadline a near impossibility. The Senate ended up funding only the first three years of its six-year DRIVE Act bill because they could not come up with sufficient new revenue for a longer bill. The \$45.6B identified to pay for FY'16 to FY'19 comes from various, non-transportation related offsets, such as selling barrels of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, indexing custom fees, and extending TSA security fees beyond the year 2023. House leaders were very critical of the Senate "payfors" and some, such as House Ways & Means Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (R-WI), have indicated that they prefer to pass an international tax reform bill this fall that would raise new revenue for the HTF through repatriation of overseas corporate profits. However, even if successful, this would produce a one-time only, non-sustainable windfall for the Trust Fund. While there is significant support for an international tax reform bill, including in the Senate where Senators Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Rob Portman (R-OH) are leading the charge, there is also considerable skepticism about whether there is enough time to pass such a complex bill before the end of the year. There are also questions about whether potential new revenue from repatriation should be used to lower the overall corporate tax rate, or for other purposes, rather than to bail out the Trust Fund. Another option for paying for a robust, sustainable, multi-year bill is to increase the federal gas tax, especially since gas prices keep dropping, but that option is not popular in Congress. However, Senators Tom Carper (D-DE) and Dick Durbin (D-IL) recently introduced S. 1994, a bill to phase-in a gas tax increase - 4-cents a year for four years (2016 to 2019) - and index the tax. The bill would raise \$100B over 10 years.

### **President's Transportation Bill (MAP-21 Reauthorization)**

To review, on March 30, the Administration unveiled "The Generating Renewal, Opportunity, and Work with Accelerated Mobility, Efficiency, and Rebuilding of Infrastructure and Communities throughout America Act," or GROW AMERICA Act, a \$478 billion, six year transportation reauthorization proposal that provides increased funding for the nation's highways, bridges, transit, and rail systems. The Administration's proposal is funded by supplementing current revenues from the Highway Trust Fund in combination with a 14 percent transition tax on up to \$2 trillion of untaxed foreign earnings that U.S. companies have accumulated overseas. This is intended to prevent Trust Fund insolvency for six years and increase investments to meet national economic goals. Highlights of the proposal are:

*\$317 billion for the highways. The proposal increases highway funds by an average of about 29 percent above FY 2015 enacted levels.*

*\$115 billion for transit. The proposal increases average transit spending by 76 percent above FY*

2015 enacted levels.

*Tools and resources for regional coordination and local decision-making.* The proposal includes policy reforms to incentivize improved regional coordination by Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs).

*Tools for dangerous vehicle and tire defects.* The proposal gives NHTSA the authority to issue imminent hazard orders requiring vehicle manufacturers to immediately take action to alleviate harm in cases where there is an imminent risk of injury or death.

*\$18 billion for a multi-modal freight program.* The proposal provides \$18 billion over six years to establish a new multimodal freight grant program.

*\$28.6 billion for rail investments.* The proposal includes \$28.6 billion over six years for high performance and passenger rail programs.

*Competitive funding to spur innovation.* The proposal provides \$7.5 billion over six years for the TIGER competitive grant program and \$6 billion for a new competitive grant program called Fixing and Accelerating Surface Transportation (or "FAST").

*Project delivery and the Federal permitting and regulatory review process.* The proposal builds on recent efforts to expedite project approval timelines.

*Cost effective investments.* The proposal provides performance incentives to maintain safety and conditions of good repair and expand research and technology activities.

*\$6 billion to attract private investment in transportation infrastructure.* The proposal provides \$6 billion in TIFIA funding over six years.

## **Bill Tracking**

### **H.R.2716, Transportation Empowerment Act**

Introduced on June 10 by Congressman Ron DeSantis (R-FL-6) with 9 (now 36) cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Ways and Means, Budget and Rules.

Status Update: two cosponsors added since the last report.

### **S.1544, A bill to rescind unused earmarks provided for the Department of Transportation, and for other purposes.**

Introduced on June 10 by Senator Jeff Flake (R-AZ) with no (now 2) cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committee on Appropriations. This bill rescinds unused earmarks previously appropriated to the Department of Transportation (DOT) and transfers the balances to the Highway Trust Fund. Under the House and Senate rules, an earmark is a provision or report language included primarily at the request of a Member of Congress providing, authorizing, or recommending a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or other spending authority for a contract, loan, loan guarantee, grant, loan authority, or other expenditure with or to an entity, or targeted to a specific state, locality or congressional district, other than

through a statutory or administrative formula-driven or competitive award process. Under this bill, earmarks provided to DOT are unused and rescinded if more than 90% of the funding remains available for obligation at the end of the 9th fiscal year following the year the earmark was made available. DOT may delay the rescission if it determines that an additional obligation is likely to occur during the 10th year after funds were made available. The bill requires each federal agency to submit an annual report to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) identifying: (1) each earmark for a project that is ineligible for funding, (2) projects for which funding has been made available under an earmark, and (3) projects with unobligated balances. OMB must submit to Congress and post on its website an annual report including an accounting of unobligated earmarks, rescissions resulting from this bill, and DOT earmarks scheduled to be rescinded

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **S.1732, Comprehensive Transportation and Consumer Protection Act of 2015**

Introduced on July 9 by Senator John Thune (R-SD) with two cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and was ordered reported.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **H.R.2353, Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2015**

Introduced on May 15 by Congressman Bill Shuster (R-PA-9) with one cosponsor. Directs the Secretary of Transportation to reduce the amount apportioned for a surface transportation program, project, or activity for FY2015 by amounts apportioned or allocated under the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014 for the period from October 1, 2014, through May 31, 2015. Amends the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014 to continue from October 1, 2014, through July 31, 2015, and authorizes appropriations through that period for, specified federal-aid highway programs under: the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) Technical Corrections Act of 2008, SAFETEA-LU, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), and other specified law. Subjects funding for such programs generally to the same manner of distribution, administration, limitation, and availability for obligation, but at a specified pro rata of the total amount, as funds authorized for appropriation out of the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) for such programs and activities for FY2014. Amends the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) to authorize appropriations out of the general fund of the Treasury for the Tribal High Priority Projects program for the same period. Prescribes an obligation ceiling of \$33,528,284,932 for federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs for the same period. Authorizes appropriations from the HTF (other than the Mass Transit Account) for administrative expenses of the federal-aid highway program for the same period. Extends for the same period the authorization of appropriations for National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) safety programs, including: highway safety research and development, national priority safety programs, the National Driver Register, the High Visibility Enforcement Program, and NHTSA administrative expenses. Amends SAFETEA-LU to extend for the same period high-visibility traffic safety law enforcement campaigns under the High Visibility Enforcement Program. Sets aside a specified amount of the total apportionment to states for highway safety programs for a cooperative program to research and evaluate priority highway

safety countermeasures for the same period. Extends for the same period the authorization of appropriations for Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) programs, including: motor carrier safety grants, FMCSA administrative expenses, commercial driver's license program improvement grants, border enforcement grants, performance and registration information system management grants, commercial vehicle information systems and networks deployment grants, safety data improvement grants, a set-aside for high priority activities that improve commercial motor vehicle safety and compliance with commercial motor vehicle safety regulations, a set-aside for new entrant motor carrier audit grants, FMCSA outreach and education, and the commercial motor vehicle operators grant program. Amends the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act to continue, for the same period, the authorized distribution of funds for coastal wetlands, recreational boating safety, projects under the Clean Vessel Act of 19921, boating infrastructure projects, and the National Outreach and Communications Program. Extends for the same period the apportionment of nonurbanized (rural) area formula grants for competitive grants and formula grants for public transportation on Indian reservations. Extends the apportionment of urbanized area formula grants for passenger ferry projects for the same period. Extends for the same period the authorization of appropriations from the HTF Mass Transit Account for: formula grants for public transportation, including allocations for specified projects; research, development demonstration, and deployment projects; the transit cooperative research program; technical assistance and standards development grants; human resources and training grants; capital investment grants; and administrative expenses. Allocates, for the same period, certain amounts to states and territories for formula bus and bus facilities grants. Authorizes appropriations for the same period for hazardous materials (hazmat) transportation safety projects. Authorizes the Secretary to make certain expenditures, including an amount for hazmat training grants, from the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Fund for the same period. Amends the Internal Revenue Code to extend through July 31, 2015, the authority for expenditures from: (1) the HTF Highway and Mass Transit Accounts, (2) the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, and (3) the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund. Bill became law (PL 114-21).

Status Update: no change since the last report.

**H.R.2410, To authorize highway infrastructure and safety, transit, motor carrier, rail, and other surface transportation programs, and for other purposes.**

Introduced on May 19 by Congressman Peter DeFazio (D-OR-4) with 23 (now 60) cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Science, Space, and Technology, Natural Resources, Oversight and Government Reform, the Budget, and Rules. Prescribes requirements for environmental reviews with respect to state and federal agency engagement, obstruction of navigation, historic sites, categorical exclusion of multimodal projects from environmental review, and creation in the Department of Transportation (DOT) of an Interagency Infrastructure Permitting Improvement Center. Directs DOT to establish a multimodal freight incentive grant program and a National Freight Infrastructure Program. Redesignates the Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways as the National Highway System and the National Freight Network. Requires the federal long-range transportation plan to include a transportation system resilience assessment. Prescribes criteria for high performing metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) representing urbanized areas with populations of over 200,000. Removes the congestion management process from the transportation planning process for MPOs. Directs DOT to establish a pilot program for up to 10 MPOs to improve multimodal connectivity and increase connections for disadvantaged Americans and neighborhoods with limited transportation options. Revises requirements with respect to congestion mitigation and air quality



improvement, including electric vehicle charging stations and commercial motor vehicle anti-idling facilities in rest areas along the Interstate System. Establishes in DOT: a discretionary TIGER Infrastructure Grant Program for various transportation projects; and a discretionary FAST Grant Program to reform the way surface transportation investments and decisions are made, implemented, and funded to achieve national transportation outcomes. Revises requirements for the funding of railroad rehabilitation and improvement financing, the state infrastructure bank program, toll roads, bridges, tunnels, and ferries. Establishes within DOT the position of Assistant Secretary for Innovative Finance. Reauthorizes the federal-aid highway and related programs through FY2021, including revised obligation limitation and apportionment requirements. Directs DOT to: establish a nationally significant federal lands and tribal projects program to fund construction, reconstruction, or rehabilitation of nationally significant federal lands and tribal transportation projects; carry out a broadband infrastructure deployment initiative; create a program to make critical and immediate improvements to infrastructure and highway safety; set-aside specified funds for states for highway safety data improvement activities on public roads; and create and maintain data sets and data analysis tools to assist MPOs, states, and the DOT in carrying out performance management analyses. Federal *Public Transportation Act of 2015* Revises fixed guideway capital investment grants requirements. Authorizes grants to state and local governments for very small starts projects. Revises requirements for formula grants for enhanced mobility and for rural areas, workforce development programs, and the public transportation safety program. Requires recipients of transportation assistance to meet certain standards for hiring locally. Reauthorizes specified public transportation assistance programs through FY2021. Authorizes DOT to make competitive grants to state and local governmental entities for bus rapid transit projects. Authorizes appropriations for specified highway safety programs through FY2021, and revises related requirements. Revises criteria for state graduated driver licensing incentive grants. Adds a 24-7 sobriety program to criteria for state repeat offender and open container laws. Authorizes specified amounts of grant funds to states for distracted driving enforcement. Authorizes appropriations for specified motor vehicle safety programs through FY2021, and increases penalties for safety violations. Revises certain reporting requirements for tire manufacturers. Requires DOT to conduct a pilot grant program to evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness for a state process for informing consumers of open motor vehicle recalls at the time of motor vehicle registration. Revises specified requirements for commercial motor vehicle and commercial driver safety. Requires disqualification to operate a commercial motor vehicle for anyone who fails to pay an assessed civil penalty for a motor vehicle safety violation. Revises certain medical and registration requirements for commercial motor vehicle operators. Revises requirements for the Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program. Directs DOT to administer a High Priority Program, an innovative technology deployment grant program, and a Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators Grant Program. Authorizes DOT to establish: a motor carrier safety facility working capital fund, and a financial assistance program for commercial driver's license program implementation. Directs DOT to maintain for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration a motor carrier safety advisory committee. Revises requirements for the Unified Carrier Registration System plan. Repeals the authorization for self-insurance by motor carriers. Prescribes notice requirements relating to decisions that electronic logging devices fail to comply with standards. Authorizes DOT to issue regulations: governing contractors that exercise control over motor carrier operations; and requiring motor vehicle employers to track and compensate employees for on-duty, not-driving time. Authorizes DOT, with respect to unsafe conditions or practices in the transportation of hazardous materials (hazmat transportation), to order necessary: operational controls, restrictions, and prohibitions without prior notice or an opportunity for a hearing; and removal, remediation, or disposal of hazardous materials causing unreasonable risk of death, personal injury, or significant harm to the property or the environment. Authorizes DOT to collect reasonable fees for the administration of the special permits and approvals for deposit into a Hazardous Materials Approvals and Permits Fund. Revises requirements for

planning and training grants under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986. Reauthorizes the program for regulating hazmat transportation through FY2021. Amends the Internal Revenue Code to extend through FY2023 specified highway-related taxes as well as requirements for expenditures from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. Replaces the Highway Trust Fund with a Transportation Trust Fund, and authorizes appropriations to it through FY2021. Directs DOT to establish and support a National Cooperative Freight Transportation Research Program and a Priority Multimodal Research Program. Revises the competitive selection process for the university transportation centers consortia program. Requires the Director of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) to create data sets and data analysis tools for intermodal transportation data. Establishes in the BTS a National Transportation Library. Authorizes the BTS Director to establish a Port Performance Statistics Program to provide nationally consistent measures of performance of the nation's maritime ports. Revises requirements for the intelligent transportation system (ITS) program. Includes as an ITS program goal the development and deployment of automated vehicles in all modes of surface transportation. Prescribes requirements for the use of funds to develop ITS infrastructure, equipment, and *systems*. *Rail for America Act* Directs DOT to facilitate by financial assistance the establishment of a National High-Performance Rail System of integrated passenger and freight rail services, including a Current Passenger Rail Service Program and a Rail Service Improvement Program. Authorizes appropriations through FY2021 for the System and for the planning, development, construction, and implementation of rail corridors and related infrastructure improvements. Requires Amtrak to submit to the Secretary draft 5-year business line plans and draft 5-year capital asset plans. Authorizes DOT to establish Regional Rail Development Authorities, including a Regional Committee, to facilitate the development of multi-state high-performance rail services, and to coordinate these investments with other rail, transit, highway, and aviation system services. Prescribes requirements for the standardization of passenger equipment and level-entry boarding platforms. Directs DOT to: evaluate the shared-use of right-of-way by passenger and freight rail systems and the operational, institutional, and legal structures that would best support improvements to both of these systems; and conduct a nationwide disparity and availability study to establish the availability and utilization of small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals in publicly funded railroad projects. Requires DOT to complete a National Rail Development Plan meeting certain criteria, and facilitate development of Regional Rail Development Plans. Authorizes DOT to prescribe regulations or issue orders to require host railroads for joint operations that occur within a small geographic area to develop unified rules governing all operations within that area. Revises or prescribes requirements relating to positive train control, hours of service, maximum employee duty hours, safety appliances, locomotive inspections, noise emission standards, and damaged track inspection equipment. Authorizes federal agency heads to construct, install, operate, and maintain electric charging infrastructure for official agency vehicles.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **S.206, Local Transportation Infrastructure Act**

Introduced on January 21 by Senator Kelly Ayotte (D-NH) with no cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. The bill revises and reauthorizes the state infrastructure bank program for FY2015 and FY2016.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

## **H.R.652, State Transportation and Infrastructure Financing Innovation Act (STIFIA)**

Introduced on February 3 by Congressman Richard Hanna (R-NY-22) with 3 cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The bill revises and reauthorizes the state infrastructure bank program for FY2016-FY2020.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

## **H.R.413, Partnership to Build America Act of 2015**

Introduced on January 21 by Congressman John Delaney (D-MD-6) with 34 (now 41) cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committees on Ways and Means and Transportation and Infrastructure. The bill establishes the American Infrastructure Fund (AIF) as a wholly-owned government corporation to provide bond guarantees and make loans to state and local governments, non-profit infrastructure providers, private parties, and public-private partnerships for state or local government sponsored transportation, energy, water, communications, or educational facility infrastructure projects (Qualified Infrastructure Projects [QIPs]). Authorizes AIF also to make equity investments in QIPs. Directs the Secretary of the Treasury, acting through the AIF, to issue American Infrastructure Bonds with an aggregate face value of \$50 billion. Requires proceeds from the sale of the bonds to be deposited into the AIF. Amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow U.S. corporations to exclude from gross income qualified cash dividend amounts received during a taxable year from a foreign-controlled corporation equal to the face value of qualified infrastructure bonds the corporation has purchased. Prohibits allowance of a foreign tax credit to the excluded portion of any dividend received by a U.S. corporation. Prohibits also the allowance of a deduction for expenses related to that excludable portion.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

## **H.R.625, Infrastructure 2.0 Act**

Introduced on January 30 by Congressman John Delaney (D-MD-6) with 4 (now 23) cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committees on Rules, Ways and Means and Transportation and Infrastructure. Amends the Internal Revenue Code, with respect to the taxation of earnings and profits of a deferred foreign income corporation, to: (1) make such earnings and profit subject to taxation in the last taxable year that ends before the enactment of this Act; (2) reduce the rate of tax on such earnings and profits by allowing an exemption of 75% (equal to a tax of 8.75% of repatriated earnings and profits); and (3) allow such corporations to elect to pay such tax in eight installments. Establishes the American Infrastructure Fund to provide assistance to states, local governments, and other public and private entities for investment in public infrastructure projects. Appropriates tax revenues from this Act to the Highway Trust Fund. Establishes the Highway Trust Fund Solvency Commission to submit recommendations and proposed legislation for achieving long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund. Sets forth congressional procedures for the expedited consideration of a bill containing such legislation. Directs the Secretary of Transportation to establish a regional infrastructure accelerator pilot program to assist public entities in developing infrastructure projects. Establishes a deadline of 18 months after the enactment of this Act for the enactment of legislation that reforms the international tax system by eliminating the incentive to hold earnings in low-tax jurisdictions. Imposes a tax on repatriated offshore corporate earnings upon the expiration of the deadline. Sets forth provisions for the reform of the international tax system (to be effective if reform legislation is not enacted

by the 18-month deadline established by this Act), including provisions relating to subpart F income and insurance income, gains and losses from the sale or exchange of stock in controlled foreign corporations, limitations on the foreign tax credit, and the tax treatment of previously deferred foreign income.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **H.R.211, REBUILD Act**

Introduced on January 8 by Congressman Ken Calvert (R-CA-42) with no cosponsors. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. This bill amends the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) to authorize: (1) the assignment to states of federal environmental review responsibilities under NEPA and other relevant federal environmental laws for covered federal projects, and (2) states to assume all or part of those responsibilities. Each responsible federal official who is authorized to assign such responsibility must promulgate regulations that establish requirements relating to information required to be contained in state applications to assume those responsibilities. An official may approve an application only if: (1) public notice requirements have been met, (2) the state has the capability to assume the responsibilities, and (3) the head of the state agency having primary jurisdiction over covered projects enters into a written agreement with an official to assume the responsibilities and to maintain the financial resources necessary to carry them out. The officials must audit state compliance with federal laws for which responsibilities are assumed. The officials may terminate the responsibilities assigned to states after providing notice to states of any noncompliance and an opportunity to take corrective action.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **S.268, Rebuild America Act of 2015**

Introduced on January 27 by Senator Bernard Sanders (I-VT) with one cosponsor. The bill was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Reduces the non-federal share of the cost of any activity funded by this Act by 50% of what it was before enactment of this Act. Appropriates funds for FY2015-FY2022 to the Highway Trust Fund to improve roads, bridges, and other U.S. transportation infrastructure. Appropriates funds for FY2015-FY2019: (1) for intercity high-speed rail service, (2) to provide credit assistance for surface transportation projects of national and regional significance, (3) to implement airport improvement and noise compatibility projects at public-use airports, (4) to the Federal Aviation Administration to accelerate deployment of satellite technology to improve airport safety and capacity, and (5) for the TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. Appropriates funds for FY2015-FY2019 for water infrastructure, including to: (1) the Environmental Protection Agency for capitalization grants to states to establish water pollution control revolving funds and drinking water treatment revolving loan funds and for loans for large water infrastructure projects that are ineligible for funding from a state revolving loan fund; (2) the Federal Emergency Management Agency to carry out the predisaster hazard mitigation program for minor localized flood reduction projects and major flood risk reduction projects; and (3) the Army Corps of Engineers for inland waterways projects, coastal harbors and channels, inland harbors, and dams and levees. Appropriates funds for FY2015-FY2019 for the National Park Service. Appropriates funds for FY2015-FY2019 for the Broadband Initiatives Program, the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, and the Department of Energy to modernize the electric grid. Establishes the National Infrastructure Development Bank as a wholly owned government corporation. Makes the Bank's Board of

Directors responsible for monitoring and overseeing energy, environmental, telecommunications, data, or transportation infrastructure projects. Authorizes the Board to: make senior and subordinated loans and purchase senior and subordinated debt securities; issue and sell debt securities of the Bank; issue public benefit bonds and provide direct subsidies to infrastructure projects from the proceeds; make loan guarantees; borrow on the global capital market and lend to regional, state, and local entities, and commercial banks, to fund infrastructure projects; and purchase, pool, and sell infrastructure-related loans and securities on the global capital market. Requires the Board to establish: (1) an Executive Committee, a Risk Management Committee, and an Audit Committee; and (2) criteria for determining eligibility for financial assistance from the Bank and disclosure and application procedures for entities to nominate projects for such assistance. Requires the Bank to conduct an analysis that considers the economic, environmental, and social benefits and costs of each project under consideration, prioritizing projects that contribute to economic growth, lead to job creation, and are of regional or national significance. Sets forth criteria to be considered by the Board in determining the eligibility of transportation, environmental, energy, and telecommunications infrastructure projects for assistance. Exempts all bonds issued by the Bank from state or local government taxation. Deems all debt securities and other obligations issued by the Bank to be exempt securities within the meaning of laws administered by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Sets forth requirements regarding compliance of financed infrastructure projects with prevailing wage rate, domestic content, and buy American statutes. Authorizes appropriations for the capitalization of the Bank.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **H.R.1308, Economy in Motion: The National Multimodal and Sustainable Freight Infrastructure Act**

Introduced on March 4 by Congressman Alan Lowenthal (D-CA-47) with 3 (now 15) cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Ways and Means. The bill directs the Secretary of Transportation to: (1) establish a Multimodal Freight Funding Formula Program to distribute funds to states, and a National Freight Infrastructure Competitive Grant Program to make grants to entities for projects, to improve the efficiency and reliability of freight movement in the United States; (2) establish a multimodal national freight network to accomplish the goals of the national freight policy, including increasing the productivity and efficiency of the national freight system and improving its safety, security, and resilience; (3) develop, maintain, and post on the public website of the Department of Transportation a national freight strategic plan that includes an assessment of the condition and performance of the national freight system; and (4) develop and improve tools to support an outcome-oriented, performance-based approach to evaluate proposed freight-related and other transportation projects. Amends the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (or MAP-21) to: (1) expand the membership and duties of state freight advisory committees; and (2) require state freight plans to include strategies and goals to decrease greenhouse gas emissions, local air pollution, water runoff, and wildlife habitat loss. Amends the Internal Revenue Code to: (1) impose a 1% excise tax upon taxable ground transportation of property (i.e., transportation by freight rail or truck trailer and semitrailer chassis and bodies, suitable for use with a trailer or semitrailer with a gross vehicle weight of 26,000 pounds or more), and (2) deposit such tax revenues into a Freight Trust Fund (established by this Act) to finance the Multimodal Freight Program.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **H.R.1330, American-Made Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act**

Introduced on March 4 by Congressman Steve Stivers (R-OH-15) with one cosponsor. The bill was referred to the Committees on Natural Resources, Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce and Transportation and Infrastructure. Directs the Secretary to collect non-refundable fees from the operators of facilities subject to inspection under this Act. Establishes in the Treasury the Ocean Energy Enforcement Fund as depository for oil and gas leasing fees. Redefines the OCS to include all submerged lands lying within the U.S. exclusive economic zone and the Continental Shelf adjacent to any U.S. territory. Authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, with the President's approval, to: (1) borrow for highway and transportation project expenditures and for water infrastructure expenditures, and (2) issue interest-bearing infrastructure revenue bonds for the amounts borrowed. Amends the Internal Revenue Code to appropriate to the Highway Trust Fund 95% of any proceeds from the issuance of such infrastructure revenue bonds. Makes available to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency for making capitalization grants to eligible states: (1) 2.5% of infrastructure revenue bond proceeds for grants under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and (2) 2.5% of such proceeds for grants under Safe Drinking Water Act.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **H.R.278, Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery for Cities Underfunded Because of Size Act of 2015 or TIGER CUBS Act**

Introduced on January 12 by Congressman Rick Larsen (D-WA-2) with one cosponsor. The bill was referred to the Committees on Appropriations and Budget. The bill provides \$500 million in supplemental FY2015 appropriations to the Department of Transportation for national infrastructure investments under a competitive grant program commonly known as the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. At least \$100 million of the funds must be used for projects located in cities with populations between 10,000 and 50,000. The funding provided by this bill is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. This funding is only available if the President designates the amounts as an emergency and submits the designation to Congress.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **H.R.680, Update, Promote, and Develop America's Transportation Essentials Act of 2015**

Introduced on February 3 by Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-OR-3) with 25 (now 38) cosponsors. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. The bill expresses the sense of Congress that by 2024 the gas tax should be repealed and replaced with a more sustainable, stable funding source. Amends the Internal Revenue Code, with respect to the excise tax on motor fuels, to increase the rate of tax on: (1) gasoline other than aviation gasoline to 26.3 cents per gallon in 2016, 30.3 cents per gallon in 2017, and 33.3 cents per gallon after 2017 and before 2028; (2) diesel fuel or kerosene to 32.3 cents per gallon in 2016, 36.3 cents per gallon in 2017, and 39.3 cents per gallon after 2017 and before 2027; and (3) diesel-water fuel emulsion. Delays the termination of such increased rates from the end of FY2016 to December 31, 2026. Requires an adjustment for inflation to such increased rates beginning after 2017. Increases allocations in the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund in 2016 and 2017 and after 2017. Imposes a floor stocks tax on rate increases for gasoline, diesel fuel, and

kerosene (other than aviation-grade kerosene), subject to specified exemptions for exempt uses and low-volume producers.

Status Update: one cosponsor added since the last report.

### **S.762, Innovation in Surface Transportation Act of 2015**

Introduced on March 17 by Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS) with 3 cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. The bill directs the Secretary of Transportation, in coordination with state transportation departments, to establish an innovation in surface transportation program. Requires states to make competitive grants for innovative surface transportation projects to eligible entities, including local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, regional transportation authorities, transit agencies, tribal governments, private providers of public transportation, nonprofit transportation organizations, port authorities, joint power authorities, freight rail providers, and local rail authorities. Requires each state (including the governor and state department of transportation) to establish an innovation in surface transportation selection panel to formulate criteria for selecting projects. Requires a state to reserve certain percentages of federal funds apportioned for the national highway performance, the highway safety improvement, the congestion mitigation and air quality improvement, surface transportation, and transportation alternatives programs in order to fund related projects under state innovative surface transportation grants. Authorizes states to reserve a certain percentage of such funds for a fiscal year to meet specific requests for project application support from eligible rural local governments.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **H.R.1620, 414 Plan Act of 2015**

Introduced on March 25 by Congressman Randy Forbes (R-VA-4) with no cosponsors. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Declares that federal laws and regulations (including prevailing rate of wage requirements under the Davis-Bacon Act) shall not apply to any federal-aid highway or highway safety construction project, except those relating to: (1) the safety or durability of a highway facility, or (2) public or workplace safety. Repeals the prohibition against approval of federal-aid highway projects or regulatory actions that will result in the severance of an existing major route or have significant adverse impact on the safety for nonmotorized transportation traffic and light motorcycles, unless the project or action provides for a reasonable alternative route or such a route exists. Defines "transportation alternatives" as any of the following activities when carried out as part of an authorized or funded federal-aid highway program or project, or as an independent program or project related to surface transportation for the construction, planning, and design of: (1) transportation projects to achieve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; or (2) infrastructure-related projects and systems that will provide safe routes for nondrivers, including children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities to access daily needs. Repeals the authorization for states to use certain funds for construction of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities. Eliminates the requirement that statewide transportation plans and statewide transportation improvement programs provide for the development of accessible pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities. Expresses the sense of Congress that states, federal agencies, localities, and private stakeholders should take steps toward increased cooperation to further expedite surface transportation projects.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **S.176, W21, Water in the 21st Century Act**

Introduced on January 13 by Senator Barbara Boxer-D-CA) with two cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. The House companion bill is H.R.291. Water in the 21st Century Act or W21 establishes within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a WaterSense program to identify, label, and promote water efficient products, buildings, landscapes, facilities, processes, and services. This bill establishes a program to provide financial incentives for consumers to purchase and install products, buildings, landscapes, facilities, processes, and services labeled under the WaterSense program. The EPA is required to make grants to owners or operators of water systems to address any ongoing or forecasted impact of climate change on a region's water quality or quantity. The Department of the Interior may: (1) provide financial assistance to water projects in specified states, including projects for water recycling, water infrastructure, enhanced energy efficiency, desalination, and water storage and conveyance; and (2) transfer to nonfederal entities title to any reclamation projects or facility in need of rehabilitation that are authorized before enactment of this Act. The U.S. Geological Survey must establish an open water data system to advance the availability, timely distribution, and widespread use of water data and information for water management, education, research, assessment, and monitoring purposes. This bill reauthorizes through FY2020 the Water Desalination Act of 1996 and water resources research and technology institutes under the Water Resources Research Act of 1984. After receiving a request from a nonfederal sponsor, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers must review the operation of a reservoir and, if appropriate, update the water control manual to incorporate improved weather and runoff forecasting methods. The EPA is required to develop voluntary national drought resilience guidelines relating to preparedness planning and investments for water users and providers. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service must prepare a salmon drought plan for California.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **H.R.291, W21, Water in the 21st Century Act**

Introduced on January 14 by Congresswoman Grace Napolitano (D-CA-32) with 28 (now 31) cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committees on Natural Resources, Energy and Commerce, Science and Transportation and Infrastructure. The Senate companion bill is S.176. Water in the 21st Century Act or W21 establishes within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a WaterSense program to identify, label, and promote water efficient products, buildings, landscapes, facilities, processes, and services. This bill establishes a program to provide financial incentives for consumers to purchase and install products, buildings, landscapes, facilities, processes, and services labeled under the WaterSense program. The EPA is required to make grants to owners or operators of water systems to address any ongoing or forecasted impact of climate change on a region's water quality or quantity. The Department of the Interior may: (1) provide financial assistance to water projects in specified states, including projects for water recycling, water infrastructure, enhanced energy efficiency, desalination, and water storage and conveyance; and (2) transfer to nonfederal entities title to any reclamation projects or facility in need of rehabilitation that are authorized before enactment of this Act. The U.S. Geological Survey must establish an open water data system to advance the availability, timely distribution, and widespread use of water data and information for water management, education, research, assessment, and monitoring purposes. This bill reauthorizes through FY2020 the Water Desalination Act of 1996 and water resources research and technology institutes under the Water Resources Research Act of 1984. After receiving a request from a nonfederal sponsor, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers must review the operation of a reservoir and, if appropriate, update the



water control manual to incorporate improved weather and runoff forecasting methods. The EPA is required to develop voluntary national drought resilience guidelines relating to preparedness planning and investments for water users and providers. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service must prepare a salmon drought plan for California.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **H.R.499, Sustainable Water Infrastructure Investment Act of 2015**

Introduced on January 22 by Congressman John Duncan (R-TN-2) with one (now 9) cosponsor. The bill was referred to the Ways and Means Committee. Amends the Internal Revenue Code to exempt from state volume caps tax-exempt facility bonds for sewage and water supply facilities

Status Update: one cosponsor added since the last report.

### **H.R.3038, Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2015, Part II**

Introduced on July 13 by Congressman Paul Ryan (R-WI-1) with one cosponsor. The bill passed the House and was placed on Senate Legislative Calendar. Directs the Secretary of Transportation to reduce the amount apportioned for a surface transportation program, project, or activity for FY2015 by amounts apportioned or allocated under the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014 and the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2015 for the period from October 1, 2014, through July 31, 2015. TITLE I--SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM EXTENSION Subtitle A--Federal-Aid Highways (Sec.1001) Amends the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014 to continue from October 1, 2014, through December 18, 2015, and authorizes appropriations through that period for, specified federal-aid highway programs under: the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) Technical Corrections Act of 2008, SAFETEA-LU, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), and other specified law. Subjects funding for FY2015, and for the period October 1, 2015, through December 18, 2015, for such programs to certain funding level restrictions. Amends MAP-21 to authorize appropriations out of the general fund of the Treasury for the Tribal High Priority Projects program for the same period. Prescribes an obligation ceiling of \$40.256 billion for FY2015, including \$8,689,136,612 for the period October 1, 2015, through December 18, 2015, for federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs. (Sec. 1002) Authorizes appropriations from the HTF (other than the Mass Transit Account) for administrative expenses of the federal-aid highway program for the same period. Subtitle B--Extension of Highway Safety Programs (Sec. 1101) Extends for the same period the authorization of appropriations for National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) safety programs, including: highway safety research and development, national priority safety programs, the National Driver Register, the High Visibility Enforcement Program, and NHTSA administrative expenses. Amends SAFETEA-LU to extend for the same period high-visibility traffic safety law enforcement campaigns under the High Visibility Enforcement Program. Sets aside a specified amount of the total apportionment to states for highway safety programs for a cooperative program to research and evaluate priority highway safety countermeasures for the same period. (Sec. 1102) Extends for the same period the authorization of appropriations for Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) programs, including: motor carrier safety grants, FMCSA administrative expenses, commercial driver's license program improvement grants, border enforcement grants, performance and

registration information system management grants, commercial vehicle information systems and networks deployment grants, safety data improvement grants, a set-aside for high priority activities that improve commercial motor vehicle safety and compliance with commercial motor vehicle safety regulations, a set-aside for new entrant motor carrier audit grants, FMCSA outreach and education, and the commercial motor vehicle operators grant program. (Sec. 1103) Amends the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act to continue, for the same period, the authorized distribution of funds for coastal wetlands, recreational boating safety, projects under the Clean Vessel Act of 19921, boating infrastructure projects, and the National Outreach and Communications Program. Subtitle C--Public Transportation Programs (Sec. 1201) Extends for the same period the apportionment of nonurbanized (rural) area formula grants for competitive grants and formula grants for public transportation on Indian reservations. (Sec. 1202) Extends the apportionment of urbanized area formula grants for passenger ferry projects for the same period. (Sec. 1203) Extends for the same period the authorization of appropriations from the HTF Mass Transit Account for: formula grants for public transportation, including allocations for specified projects; research, development demonstration, and deployment projects; the transit cooperative research program; technical assistance and standards development grants; human resources and training grants; capital investment grants; and administrative expenses. (Sec. 1204) Allocates, for the same period, certain amounts to states and territories for formula bus and bus facilities grants. Subtitle D--Hazardous Materials (Sec. 1301) Authorizes appropriations for the same period for hazardous materials (hazmat) transportation safety projects. Authorizes the Secretary to make certain expenditures, including an amount for hazmat training grants, from the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Fund for the same period. TITLE II--REVENUE PROVISIONS (Sec. 2001) Amends the Internal Revenue Code to extend through December 19, 2015, the authority for expenditures from: (1) the Highway and Mass Transit Accounts of the Highway Trust Fund, (2) the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, and (3) the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund. (Sec. 2002) Appropriates additional funds to the Highway and Mass Transit Accounts of the Highway Trust Fund. (Sec. 2003) Requires tax information returns reporting mortgage interest received in a trade or business to include: (1) the outstanding principal on the mortgage, (2) the date of the origination of the mortgage, and (3) the address of the property which secures the mortgage. (Sec. 2004) Requires that: (1) the value of the basis in any property acquired from a decedent be consistent with the basis as determined for estate tax purposes; and (2) executors of estates disclose to the Internal Revenue Service and to persons acquiring any interest in the decedent's estate information identifying the value of each interest received. (Sec. 2005) Makes the six-year limitation on assessments of additional tax applicable to understatements of gross income due to an overstatement of unrecovered costs or other basis. (Sec. 2006) Changes tax return due dates for partnerships, S corporations, and C corporations. Extends the automatic extension for corporate income tax returns from three to six months. (Sec. 2007) Extends through 2025 the authority for transfers of excess pension assets of a defined benefit plan to a retiree health benefits account. (Sec. 2008) Equalizes excise tax rates for liquefied petroleum gas, liquefied natural gas, and compressed natural gas. TITLE III--ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS (Sec. 3001) Revises aviation security service passenger fee requirements. Requires the deposit into the Treasury as offsetting receipts the following sums collected to pay the costs of providing civil aviation security services to airline passengers: \$1.560 billion for FY2024, and \$1.6 billion for FY2025.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

**H.R.3064, To authorize highway infrastructure and safety, transit, motor carrier, rail, and other surface transportation programs, and for other purposes.**

Introduced on July 6 by Congressman Chris Van Hollen (D-MD-8) with eight (now 11) cosponsors and referred to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Science, Space, and Technology, Natural Resources, Oversight and Government Reform, Budget, and Rules. Prescribes requirements for environmental reviews with respect to state and federal agency engagement, obstruction of navigation, historic sites, categorical exclusion of multimodal projects from environmental review, and creation in the Department of Transportation (DOT) of an Interagency Infrastructure Permitting Improvement Center. Directs DOT to establish a multimodal freight incentive grant program and a National Freight Infrastructure Program. Redesignates the Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways as the National Highway System and the National Freight Network. Requires the federal long-range transportation plan to include a transportation system resilience assessment. Prescribes criteria for high performing metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) representing urbanized areas with populations of over 200,000. Removes the congestion management process from the transportation planning process for MPOs. Directs DOT to establish a pilot program for up to 10 MPOs to improve multimodal connectivity and increase connections for disadvantaged Americans and neighborhoods with limited transportation options. Revises requirements with respect to congestion mitigation and air quality improvement, including electric vehicle charging stations and commercial motor vehicle anti-idling facilities in rest areas along the Interstate System. Establishes in DOT: a discretionary TIGER Infrastructure Grant Program for various transportation projects; and a discretionary FAST Grant Program to reform the way surface transportation investments and decisions are made, implemented, and funded to achieve national transportation outcomes. Revises requirements for the funding of railroad rehabilitation and improvement financing, the state infrastructure bank program, toll roads, bridges, tunnels, and ferries. Establishes within DOT the position of Assistant Secretary for Innovative Finance. Reauthorizes the federal-aid highway and related programs through FY2021, including revised obligation limitation and apportionment requirements. Directs DOT to: establish a nationally significant federal lands and tribal projects program to fund construction, reconstruction, or rehabilitation of nationally significant federal lands and tribal transportation projects; carry out a broadband infrastructure deployment initiative; create a program to make critical and immediate improvements to infrastructure and highway safety; set-aside specified funds for states for highway safety data improvement activities on public roads; and create and maintain data sets and data analysis tools to assist MPOs, states, and the DOT in carrying out performance management analyses. Federal *Public Transportation Act of 2015* Revises fixed guideway capital investment grants requirements. Authorizes grants to state and local governments for very small starts projects. Revises requirements for formula grants for enhanced mobility and for rural areas, workforce development programs, and the public transportation safety program. Requires recipients of transportation assistance to meet certain standards for hiring locally. Reauthorizes specified public transportation assistance programs through FY2021. Authorizes DOT to make competitive grants to state and local governmental entities for bus rapid transit projects. Authorizes appropriations for specified highway safety programs through FY2021, and revises related requirements. Revises criteria for state graduated driver licensing incentive grants. Adds a 24-7 sobriety program to criteria for state repeat offender and open container laws. Authorizes specified amounts of grant funds to states for distracted driving enforcement. Authorizes appropriations for specified motor vehicle safety programs through FY2021, and increases penalties for safety violations. Revises certain reporting requirements for tire manufacturers. Requires DOT to conduct a pilot grant program to evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness for a state process for informing consumers of open motor vehicle recalls at the time of motor vehicle registration. Revises specified requirements for commercial motor vehicle and commercial driver safety. Requires disqualification to operate a

commercial motor vehicle for anyone who fails to pay an assessed civil penalty for a motor vehicle safety violation. Revises certain medical and registration requirements for commercial motor vehicle operators. Revises requirements for the Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program. Directs DOT to administer a High Priority Program, an innovative technology deployment grant program, and a Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators Grant Program. Authorizes DOT to establish: a motor carrier safety facility working capital fund, and a financial assistance program for commercial driver's license program implementation. Directs DOT to maintain for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration a motor carrier safety advisory committee. Revises requirements for the Unified Carrier Registration System plan. Repeals the authorization for self-insurance by motor carriers. Prescribes notice requirements relating to decisions that electronic logging devices fail to comply with standards. Authorizes DOT to issue regulations: governing contractors that exercise control over motor carrier operations; and requiring motor vehicle employers to track and compensate employees for on-duty, not-driving time. Authorizes DOT, with respect to unsafe conditions or practices in the transportation of hazardous materials (hazmat transportation), to order necessary: operational controls, restrictions, and prohibitions without prior notice or an opportunity for a hearing; and removal, remediation, or disposal of hazardous materials causing unreasonable risk of death, personal injury, or significant harm to the property or the environment. Authorizes DOT to collect reasonable fees for the administration of the special permits and approvals for deposit into a Hazardous Materials Approvals and Permits Fund. Revises requirements for planning and training grants under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986. Reauthorizes the program for regulating hazmat transportation through FY2021. Amends the Internal Revenue Code to extend through FY2023 specified highway-related taxes as well as requirements for expenditures from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. Replaces the Highway Trust Fund with a Transportation Trust Fund, and authorizes appropriations to it through FY2021. Directs DOT to establish and support a National Cooperative Freight Transportation Research Program and a Priority Multimodal Research Program. Revises the competitive selection process for the university transportation centers consortia program. Requires the Director of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) to create data sets and data analysis tools for intermodal transportation data. Establishes in the BTS a National Transportation Library. Authorizes the BTS Director to establish a Port Performance Statistics Program to provide nationally consistent measures of performance of the nation's maritime ports. Revises requirements for the intelligent transportation system (ITS) program. Includes as an ITS program goal the development and deployment of automated vehicles in all modes of surface transportation. Prescribes requirements for the use of funds to develop ITS infrastructure, equipment, and *systems*. *Rail for America Act* Directs DOT to facilitate by financial assistance the establishment of a National High-Performance Rail System of integrated passenger and freight rail services, including a Current Passenger Rail Service Program and a Rail Service Improvement Program. Authorizes appropriations through FY2021 for the System and for the planning, development, construction, and implementation of rail corridors and related infrastructure improvements. Requires Amtrak to submit to the Secretary draft 5-year business line plans and draft 5-year capital asset plans. Authorizes DOT to establish Regional Rail Development Authorities, including a Regional Committee, to facilitate the development of multi-state high-performance rail services, and to coordinate these investments with other rail, transit, highway, and aviation system services. Prescribes requirements for the standardization of passenger equipment and level-entry boarding platforms. Directs DOT to: evaluate the shared-use of right-of-way by passenger and freight rail systems and the operational, institutional, and legal structures that would best support improvements to both of these systems; and conduct a nationwide disparity and availability study to establish the availability and utilization of small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals in publicly funded railroad projects. Requires DOT to complete a National Rail Development Plan meeting certain criteria, and facilitate development of Regional Rail Development Plans. Authorizes DOT to prescribe

regulations or issue orders to require host railroads for joint operations that occur within a small geographic area to develop unified rules governing all operations within that area. Revises or prescribes requirements relating to positive train control, hours of service, maximum employee duty hours, safety appliances, locomotive inspections, noise emission standards, and damaged track inspection equipment. Authorizes federal agency heads to construct, install, operate, and maintain electric charging infrastructure for official *agency vehicles*. *Stop Corporate Expatriation and Invest in America's Infrastructure Act of 2015* Amends the Internal Revenue Code to revise rules for the taxation of inverted corporations (i.e., U.S. corporations that acquire foreign companies to reincorporate in a foreign jurisdiction with income tax rates lower than the United States) to provide that a foreign corporation that acquires the properties of a U.S. corporation or partnership after May 8, 2014, shall be treated as an inverted corporation and thus subject to U.S. taxation if, after such acquisition: it holds more than 50% of the stock of the new entity (expanded affiliated group), or the management or control of the new entity occurs primarily within the United States and the new entity has significant domestic business activities.

Status Update: two cosponsors added since the last report.

### **H.R.3104, To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce carbon pollution in the United States, invest in the Nation's infrastructure, and cut taxes for working Americans.**

Introduced on July 16 by Congressman John B. Larson (D-CT-1) with no cosponsors and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and Foreign Affairs. Amends the Internal Revenue Code to impose an excise tax, beginning in calendar year 2016, on any taxable carbon substance sold by its manufacturer, producer, or importer. Defines "taxable carbon substance" as: (1) coal (including lignite and peat); (2) petroleum and any petroleum products; and (3) natural gas that is extracted, manufactured, or produced in the United States, or entered into the United States for consumption, use, or warehousing. Establishes in the Treasury the America's Energy Security Trust Fund to assist industries negatively affected by this Act, make transfers to the Highway Trust Fund to cover shortfalls, and provide payroll tax relief. Allows individual taxpayers a tax credit equal to carbon tax rebate amounts calculated by the Department of the Treasury. Directs Treasury to study and report to Congress on the best methods to assess and collect taxes on non-carbon greenhouse gases. Expresses the sense of Congress that the United States should establish binding agreements with major greenhouse gas emitting nations to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **S.1589, Building and Renewing Infrastructure for Development and Growth in Employment Act or the BRIDGE Act**

Introduced on June 16 by Senator Mark Warner (D-VA) with ten (now 11) cosponsors and referred to the Committee on Finance. Establishes the Infrastructure Financing Authority (IFA) as a wholly-owned government corporation, headed by a Chief Executive Officer and managed by a Board of Directors, which shall provide direct loans and loan guarantees to facilitate the construction, consolidation, alteration, or repair of transportation, water, and energy infrastructure projects. Requires infrastructure projects assisted under this Act to have costs reasonably anticipated to equal or exceed \$50 million (\$10 million for rural infrastructure projects). Sets forth special requirements for infrastructure projects in rural areas. Establishes an Office of Technical and Rural Assistance to: provide technical assistance to state and local governments and parties in public-private partnerships in the development and financing of

eligible, including rural, infrastructure projects; and establish a regional infrastructure accelerator demonstration program. Establishes an Office of Special Inspector General to conduct, supervise, and coordinate audits and investigations of the business activities of IFA. Prohibits IFA financing of a project if: it is private or does not create a public benefit, or the loan applicant is unable to demonstrate a sufficient revenue stream. Sets forth terms for loans or loan guarantees for eligible infrastructure projects and for the repayment of such loans. Requires an annual independent audit of IFA finances. Requires the President, immediately after IFA approves financing for a proposed project, to convene a meeting of representatives of all permitting agencies to: establish a permitting timetable for the environmental review of a project, and coordinate with relevant state agencies and regional infrastructure development agencies in the review of such projects. Requires the Chief Executive Officer of IFA to: establish fees with respect to loans and loan guarantees that are sufficient to cover IFA's administrative costs; and take actions to make IFA a self-sustaining entity, with administrative and federal credit subsidy costs fully funded by fees and risk premiums on loans and loan guarantees. Amends the Internal Revenue Code to increase from \$15 billion to \$16 billion the aggregate amount of proceeds from tax-exempt facility bonds the Department of Transportation shall allocate among qualified highway or surface freight transfer facilities.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **S.1701, Infrastructure Rehabilitation Act of 2015**

Introduced on June 25 by Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) with no cosponsors (now 8). The bill was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Status Update: eight cosponsors added since the last report.

### **S.1748, A bill to provide for improved investment in national transportation infrastructure.**

Introduced on July 9 by Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) with four cosponsors and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **S.1680, National Multimodal Freight Policy and Investment Act**

Introduced on June 25 by Senator Maria Cantwell with three cosponsors (now 4). The bill was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Status Update: one cosponsor added since the last report.

### **H.R.3337, National Infrastructure Development Bank Act of 2015**

Introduced on July 29 by Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (D-CT-3) with seventy cosponsors (now 75). The bill was to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Financial Services, and Ways and Means. Establishes the National Infrastructure Development Bank as a wholly owned government corporation. Makes the Bank's Board of

Directors responsible for monitoring and overseeing energy, environmental, telecommunications, and transportation infrastructure projects. Authorizes the Board to: (1) make senior and subordinated direct loans and loan guarantees to assist in the financing or refinancing of an infrastructure project, (2) issue public benefit bonds and provide financing to infrastructure projects, and (3) pay an interest subsidy to the issuer of American Infrastructure Bonds. Requires the Board to establish an Executive Committee to establish requirements and make recommendations for project proposals to be considered for financial assistance. Requires the Bank to establish a Risk Management Committee, which shall: (1) create financial, credit, and operational risk management guidelines for the Bank; (2) set guidelines to ensure diversification of lending activities by geographic region and infrastructure project type; (3) create conforming standards for all financial assistance provided by the Bank; (4) monitor financial, credit, and operational exposure of the Bank; (5) provide financial recommendations to the Board; and (6) ensure that the aggregate amount of interest subsidies provided for American Infrastructure Bonds in a given calendar year does not exceed 28% of interest payable under all such Bonds. Requires the Bank to establish an audit committee. Requires the Board to approve criteria established by the Executive Committee for determining project eligibility for financial assistance. Sets forth criteria to be considered by the Board for each type of infrastructure project. Requires the Executive Committee to conduct an analysis that considers the economic, environmental, and social benefits and costs of each project under consideration, prioritizing projects that contribute to economic growth, lead to job creation, and are of regional or national significance. Requires any financial assistance for an infrastructure project to be repayable from dedicated revenue sources that also secure the infrastructure project obligations. Limits the amount of assistance under this Act to 50% of reasonably anticipated project costs. Exempts all bonds issued by the Bank from state or local government taxation. Sets forth requirements regarding compliance of assisted projects with wage rate, domestic content, and buy American statutes. Requires the Board to establish an American Infrastructure Bond program. Establishes in the Treasury the National Infrastructure Development Bank Trust Fund into which an amount estimated to equal the tax receipts attributable to interest payable under such Bonds is to be appropriated.

Status Update: five cosponsors added since the last report.

**H.R.3376, To authorize States to carry out bridge construction, maintenance, repair, and replacement projects using previously allocated surface transportation funds that are identified as being excess or inactive, and for other purposes.**

Introduced on July 29 by Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D-NY-17) with no cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

**H.R.3398, To improve the condition and performance of the national multimodal freight network, and for other purposes.**

Introduced on July 29 by Congressman David Reichert (R-WA-8) with two cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **S.1994, Tax Relief And FixTheTrustFund For Infrastructure Certainty Act of 2015**

Introduced on August 5 by Senator Thomas Carper (D-DE) with one cosponsor. The bill was referred to the Committee on Finance. This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to phase in: (1) an increase of the excise tax rate on gasoline beginning in 2016 until such rate is 34.3 cents per gallon in calendar years beginning after 2018, and (2) a similar increase to 40.3 cents per gallon for diesel fuel and kerosene. The rates are to be adjusted for inflation for calendar years after 2019. The bill phases in increases in allocations of fuel excise tax amounts to the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund for calendar years beginning in 2015. Such increased allocations are to be adjusted for inflation for calendar years beginning after 2019. The bill makes permanent the increase in the refundable portion of the child tax credit and the increase in the earned income tax credit for families with three or more qualifying children. The earned income tax credit is also modified to: (1) allow an increase in such credit for individuals with no qualifying children, (2) revise tax credit eligibility rules for married individuals living apart and qualifying children claimed by another family member, and (3) repeal the denial of such credit for taxpayers with excess investment income.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **S.2008, Transportation, Access, and Opportunity Act of 2015**

Introduced on August 6 by Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR) with no cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Status Update: no change since the last report.

### **H.R.3465, Public-Private Partnership Infrastructure Investment Act**

Introduced on September 9 by Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney (D-NY-18) with no cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Status Update: bill added since the last report.