

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 385

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to make grants for the operation of a clearinghouse to collect, conduct, and fund research on the influences of highly automated vehicles on land use, urban design, transportation, real estate, and municipal budgets, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 21, 2021

Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself and Ms. BONAMICI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to make grants for the operation of a clearinghouse to collect, conduct, and fund research on the influences of highly automated vehicles on land use, urban design, transportation, real estate, and municipal budgets, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Preparing Localities
3 for an Autonomous and Connected Environment Act” or
4 the “PLACE Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL HIGHLY AUTOMATED VEHICLE AND MO-**
6 **BILITY INNOVATION CLEARINGHOUSE.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 55 of title
8 49, United States Code, is further amended by adding at
9 the end the following:

10 **“§ 5506. National highly automated vehicle and mo-**
11 **bility innovation clearinghouse**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make a
13 grant to an institution of higher education engaged in re-
14 search on the secondary impacts of highly automated vehi-
15 cles and mobility innovation to—

16 “(1) operate a national highly automated vehi-
17 cle and mobility innovation clearinghouse;

18 “(2) collect, conduct, and fund research on the
19 secondary impacts of highly automated vehicles and
20 mobility innovation;

21 “(3) make such research available on a public
22 website; and

23 “(4) conduct outreach and dissemination of the
24 information described in this subsection to assist
25 communities.

1 “(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 is authorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust
3 Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out
4 this section \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year from funds
5 made available to carry out sections 512 through 518 of
6 title 23, United States Code.

7 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) HIGHLY AUTOMATED VEHICLE.—The term
9 ‘highly automated vehicle’ means a motor vehicle
10 that—

11 “(A) is capable of performing the entire
12 task of driving (including steering, accelerating
13 and decelerating, and reacting to external stim-
14 ulus) without human intervention; and

15 “(B) is designed to be operated exclusively
16 by a Level 3, Level 4, or Level 5 automated
17 driving system for all trips according to the rec-
18 ommended practice standards published on
19 June 15, 2018, by the Society of Automotive
20 Engineers International (J3016__201806) or
21 equivalent standards adopted by the Secretary
22 with respect to automated motor vehicles.

23 “(2) MOBILITY INNOVATION.—The term ‘mobil-
24 ity innovation’ means an activity described in section

1 5316, including mobility on demand and mobility as
 2 a service (as such terms are defined in such section).

3 “(3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
 4 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the
 5 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher
 6 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

7 “(4) SECONDARY IMPACTS.—The term ‘sec-
 8 ondary impacts’ means the impacts on land use,
 9 urban design, transportation systems, real estate,
 10 accessibility, municipal budgets, social equity, avail-
 11 ability and quality of jobs, air quality and climate,
 12 energy consumption, and the environment.”.

13 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
 14 ter 55 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by add-
 15 ing at the end the following:

“5506. National highly automated vehicle and mobility innovation clearing-
 house.”.

16 (c) DEADLINE FOR CLEARINGHOUSE.—The Sec-
 17 retary of Transportation shall ensure that the institution
 18 of higher education that receives the grant described in
 19 section 5506(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, as
 20 added by subsection (a), shall establish the national highly
 21 automated vehicle clearinghouse described in such section
 22 not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of
 23 this Act.

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