

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3289

To re-establish an advisory committee to provide independent advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation regarding comprehensive, interdisciplinary issues related to transportation from a variety of stakeholders in transportation planning, design, research, policy, and advocacy, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 17, 2021

Ms. WILSON of Florida (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. COHEN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. ROSS, Mr. TAKANO, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To re-establish an advisory committee to provide independent advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation regarding comprehensive, interdisciplinary issues related to transportation from a variety of stakeholders in transportation planning, design, research, policy, and advocacy, 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 “Transportation Equity
3 Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF TRANSPORTATION EQUITY AD-**
5 **VISORY COMMITTEE.**

6 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 120 days after
7 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Trans-
8 portation shall establish an advisory committee, to be
9 known as the Transportation Equity Committee (referred
10 to in this Act as the “Committee”), regarding comprehen-
11 sive and interdisciplinary issues related to transportation
12 equity from a variety of stakeholders in transportation
13 planning, design, research, policy, and advocacy.

14 (b) **PURPOSE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**—The
15 Committee established under subsection (a) shall provide
16 independent advice and recommendations to the Secretary
17 on transportation equity, including developing a strategic
18 plan with recommendations to the Secretary on national
19 transportation metrics and the effect on such factors as
20 economic development, connectivity, and public engage-
21 ment.

22 (c) **DUTIES.**—The Committee shall evaluate the De-
23 partment’s work in connecting people to economic and re-
24 lated forms of opportunity and revitalize communities in
25 carrying out its strategic, research, technological, regu-
26 latory, community engagement, and economic policy ac-

1 tivities related to transportation and opportunity. Deci-
2 sions directly affecting implementation of transportation
3 policy remain with the Secretary.

4 (d) MEMBERSHIP.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall appoint
6 an odd number of members of not less than 9 but
7 not more than 15 members (with a quorum con-
8 sisting of a majority of members rounded up to the
9 nearest odd number), to include balanced represen-
10 tation from academia, community groups, industry
11 and business, non-governmental organizations, State
12 and local governments, federally recognized Tribal
13 Governments, advocacy organizations, and indige-
14 nous groups with varying points of view.

15 (2) BROAD REPRESENTATION.—To the extent
16 practicable, members of the Committee shall reflect
17 a variety of backgrounds and experiences, geo-
18 graphic diversity, including urban, rural, tribal, ter-
19 ritories, and underserved and marginalized commu-
20 nities throughout the country, and individuals with
21 expertise in related areas such as housing, health
22 care, and the environment.

23 (3) REPLACEMENT FOR NON-ACTIVE MEM-
24 BERS.—The Secretary may remove a non-active
25 member who misses 3 consecutive meetings and ap-

1 point a replacement to service for the period of time
2 set forth in subsection (f).

3 (e) MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet not less
4 than 2 times each year with not more than 9 months be-
5 tween meetings at a reasonable time, in a place accessible
6 to the public, and in a room large enough to accommodate
7 the Committee members, staff, and reasonable number of
8 interested members of the public. The room in which the
9 Committee meets shall be large enough to accommodate
10 at least 100 and shall be compliant with the Americans
11 with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).

12 (f) TERM.—Each member of the Committee shall
13 serve a 2-year term with not more than 2 consecutive term
14 reappointments, but may continue service until a replace-
15 ment is appointed.

16 (g) SUPPORT.—The Office of the Under Secretary for
17 Policy of the Department of the Department of Transpor-
18 tation shall provide necessary funding, logistics, and ad-
19 ministrative support for the Committee.

20 (h) APPLICATION OF FACA.—The Federal Advisory
21 Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app.) shall apply, except section
22 14, to the Committee established under this section.

23 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation
25 shall appoint a full-time Federal employee to serve as the

1 coordinator of the Committee on Transportation Equity
2 and act as the Designated Federal Officer for the Trans-
3 portation Equity Committee. The designated Federal offi-
4 cer shall ensure that administrative support is provided
5 for the Committee.

6 (b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Designated Federal Of-
7 ficer shall—

8 (1) call meetings of the Committee, and any
9 subcommittees that the Committee designates, after
10 consultation with the Chair;

11 (2) formulate and approve an agenda, in con-
12 sultation with the Chair, for each meeting;

13 (3) notify all Committee members of the time,
14 place, and agenda for any meeting;

15 (4) provide administrative support for all meet-
16 ings of the Committee;

17 (5) attend each Committee and subcommittee
18 meeting;

19 (6) maintain all Advisory Committee on Trans-
20 portation Equity files and records, including minutes
21 from each meeting;

22 (7) adjourn any meeting when it is determined
23 to be in the public interest and chair meetings when
24 directed to do so by the Secretary;

1 (8) make available to the public meeting notes
2 and information; and

3 (9) publish notice of any meeting of the Com-
4 mittee in the Federal Register at least 15 days be-
5 fore such meeting.

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