

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6546

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a Wireless Electric Vehicle Charging Grant Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Mrs. LAWRENCE (for herself, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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 establish a Wireless Electric Vehicle Charging Grant Program, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Wireless Electric Vehi-
5 cle Charging Grant Program Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Electric vehicles are crucial to cutting
2 greenhouse gas emissions, reducing reliance on fossil
3 fuels, and combating the climate crisis. As of 2019,
4 the transportation sector accounts for 29 percent of
5 all greenhouse gas emissions, which is the most of
6 any sector.

7 (2) Increasing the adoption of electric vehicles
8 will reduce pollution and increase air quality for
9 communities located near roads with high traffic
10 density or high-volume routes.

11 (3) As the automotive industry shifts towards
12 electric vehicles, investing in new electric vehicle
13 technologies will be crucial to enhancing America's
14 competitiveness, creating jobs, and ensuring contin-
15 ued economic growth.

16 (4) Range anxiety is one of the chief barriers
17 to electric vehicle adoption. If deployed strategically,
18 wireless electric vehicle charging could help by pro-
19 viding drivers convenient opportunities to charge and
20 extend the range of electric vehicles.

21 (5) Wireless charging technologies could be in-
22 valuable for electric transit buses, trucking, fleet ve-
23 hicles, and autonomous electric vehicles, allowing for
24 convenient and hands-free charging, while also low-

1 ering costs, as effective wireless charging would re-
2 duce the need for larger and heavier batteries.

3 (6) Wireless electric vehicle charging has the
4 potential to make electric vehicles more accessible
5 and allow all people of the United States, regardless
6 of physical ability, to enjoy the benefits of electric
7 vehicles.

8 (7) It is critical to establish a resilient and ro-
9 bust domestic supply chain for all electric vehicle
10 charging infrastructure. With strong Buy America
11 requirements, federally funded programs can
12 incentivize companies to build facilities in the United
13 States, creating good paying jobs and economic
14 growth for communities.

15 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF WIRELESS ELECTRIC VEHICLE**
16 **CHARGING GRANT PROGRAM.**

17 The Secretary of Transportation shall establish a
18 program, in coordination with the Department of Energy,
19 to award grants on a competitive basis to eligible entities
20 for projects to construct, install, or improve existing wire-
21 less charging infrastructure and technology for electric ve-
22 hicles. The program shall be known as the Wireless Elec-
23 tric Vehicle Charging Grant Program (in this Act referred
24 to as the “Program”).

1 **SEC. 4. DUTIES OF SECRETARY.**

2 In carrying out the Program, the Secretary—

3 (1) may award grants for projects described in
4 section 3, including for wireless charging located
5 along roads, in parking lots, airports, and at coastal
6 and inland ports;

7 (2) shall ensure that recipients of the grants
8 focus on the wireless charging of 1 or more of—

9 (A) light-, medium-, and heavy-duty vehi-
10 cles;

11 (B) fleet vehicles, including the Federal ve-
12 hicle fleets; and

13 (C) public transit;

14 (3) shall publish an annual progress report to
15 the relevant committees of the House of Representa-
16 tives and the Senate that includes—

17 (A) a description of recipients of grants,
18 amount disbursed, and reasons for the selection
19 of projects;

20 (B) the progress of each pilot project fund-
21 ed under the Program;

22 (C) successes, failures, and safety of the
23 technologies funded under the Program;

24 (D) recommendations for future funding,
25 best practices, and policies relating to wireless
26 electric vehicle charging;

1 (E) workforce impacts of each project;

2 (F) the environmental impact of each
3 project, such as the amount of fuel saved from
4 the project, predicted emissions savings,
5 changes in air quality, and any other environ-
6 mental information deemed necessary by the
7 Secretary; and

8 (G) any other information the Secretary
9 considers necessary; and

10 (4) may provide technical assistance, as deter-
11 mined appropriate by the Secretary to eligible enti-
12 ties with respect to activities described in paragraph
13 (1).

14 **SEC. 5. GRANT RECIPIENTS.**

15 (a) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible for a grant
16 or technical assistance under the Program, an entity shall
17 be, or be partnered with, any of the following:

18 (1) A State, local, Tribal, or territorial govern-
19 ment.

20 (2) A Metropolitan Planning Organization.

21 (3) A special purpose district or public author-
22 ity with a transportation function.

23 (4) A transit agency.

1 (b) GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY.—In selecting eligible
2 entities to receive grants under the Program, the Sec-
3 retary shall prioritize geographical diversity.

4 (c) ADDITIONAL GRANT AMOUNTS.—An eligible enti-
5 ty may receive a grant from a State, local, Tribal, or terri-
6 torial government to carry out similar activities as the ac-
7 tivities funded under the Program.

8 (d) WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING.—
9 Eligible entities may use a portion of their grant to cover
10 costs associated with training workers to construct, install,
11 maintain, or operate the projects.

12 (e) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.—Eligible entities
13 may use a portion of their grant to cover costs associated
14 with engaging the communities and affected workers, such
15 as drivers, on the planning and design of the project and
16 educating the public on the project.

17 **SEC. 6. COST SHARE.**

18 (a) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of a grant
19 awarded under the Program may not exceed 80 percent
20 of total cost of the project.

21 (b) MAXIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—The amount of a
22 grant awarded to an eligible entity under the Program
23 may not exceed \$5,000,000.

1 **SEC. 7. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**

2 (a) PRIORITY.—In awarding the grants under the
3 Program, the Secretary shall prioritize projects that—

4 (1) focus on non-disruptive designs that are
5 compatible with existing infrastructure and bene-
6 ficial to the public, including for low income, under-
7 served, or disadvantaged communities;

8 (2) focus on cost-effective, energy-efficient, and
9 environmentally sustainable technologies for public
10 use;

11 (3) focus on compatibility with the entire range
12 of electric vehicles and with, if determined appro-
13 priate by the Secretary, developing and evolving uni-
14 versal wireless charging standards;

15 (4) focus on safe designs that are compatible
16 with frequent use in a variety of weather conditions
17 and road maintenance activities;

18 (5) are carried out by entities that emphasize
19 diversity, equity, and inclusion in the eligible entity's
20 workforce and business practices;

21 (6) are likely to leverage Federal investment by
22 encouraging non-Federal contributions to the
23 project, including projects from public-private part-
24 nerships;

25 (7) have State, local, Tribal, or territorial gov-
26 ernment support;

1 (8) have an outreach strategy to inform and
2 educate the public on project benefits and uses be-
3 fore, during, and after the construction of the
4 projects; and

5 (9) have an inclusive plan to engage and ensure
6 that the surrounding communities and impacted
7 workers, such as the drivers of the vehicles, are in-
8 cluded in the planning and design process.

9 (b) WAGE RATE REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary
10 shall require that each recipient of a grant under the Pro-
11 gram provides reasonable assurances that all laborers and
12 mechanics employed to carry out the projects for which
13 the assistance is provided, including laborers and mechan-
14 ics employed by contractors or subcontractors, will be paid
15 wages at rates not less than those for similar work in the
16 locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accord-
17 ance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United
18 States Code (commonly referred to as the “Davis-Bacon
19 Act”).

20 (c) NEUTRALITY TOWARD ORGANIZED LABOR.—The
21 recipient of grants under the Program shall have, and en-
22 sure that all employed by contractors and subcontractors
23 of the covered entity with respect to the covered activities
24 have—

1 (1) an explicit policy of neutrality with regard
2 to—

3 (A) labor organizing for the employees en-
4 gaged in the covered activities; and

5 (B) such employees' choice to form and
6 join labor organizations; and

7 (2) policies that require—

8 (A) the posting and maintenance of notices
9 in the workplace to such employees of their
10 rights under the National Labor Relations Act
11 (29 U.S.C. 151 et seq.); and

12 (B) that such employees are, at the begin-
13 ning of their employment, provided notice and
14 information regarding the employees' rights
15 under such Act.

16 (d) BUY AMERICA.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
18 graph (2), recipients of grants under the Program
19 shall comply with the requirements described in sec-
20 tion 5323(j) of title 49, United States Code.

21 (2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may provide any
22 waiver to the requirements described in paragraph
23 (1) in the same manner and to the same extent as
24 the Secretary of Transportation may provide a waiv-

1 er under section 5323(j)(2) of title 49, United
2 States Code.

3 **SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) **ELECTRIC VEHICLE.**—The term “electric
6 vehicle” means a zero-emission vehicle powered by
7 an electric battery and train.

8 (2) **STATE.**—The term “State” has the mean-
9 ing given the term in section 101 of title 23, United
10 States Code.

11 (3) **WIRELESS CHARGING.**—The term “wireless
12 charging” means the charging of a battery by induc-
13 tive charging or by any means in which a battery is
14 charged without a wire, or plug-in wire, connecting
15 the power source and battery.

16 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 There is authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000
18 to carry out this Act, to remain available until expended.

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