

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6154

To establish a pilot program to provide partial or full gasoline reimbursement for certain commuters and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2008

Mr. LATOURETTE (for himself, Mr. TIBERI, and Mr. MCCOTTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To establish a pilot program to provide partial or full gasoline reimbursement for certain commuters 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. ESTABLISHMENT OF GASOLINE REIMBURSE-**
4 **MENT PILOT PROGRAM.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM.—

6 (1) GRANT PROGRAM TO STATES.—The Admin-
7 istrator of the Federal Highway Administration, in
8 consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, shall
9 establish a 3-year pilot program to provide States

1 with grant funds to reimburse commuters for the
2 cost of gasoline for not more than 30 miles a day
3 in accordance with this section.

4 (2) GRANT AWARDS.—The Administrator shall
5 provide grant funds to a State based on the number
6 of commuter vehicles in such State using the attri-
7 bution tables for the number of vehicle miles trav-
8 eled in each State to determine the number of com-
9 muting vehicles.

10 (3) FORMULA.—The administrator shall appor-
11 tion funds to a State in a ratio that—

12 (A) the total number of commuting vehi-
13 cles in each State; bears to

14 (B) the total number of commuting vehi-
15 cles in all States.

16 (b) REIMBURSEMENT LEVELS.—Except as provided
17 in subsection (e), a commuter who operates a commuter
18 vehicle that has an estimated fuel economy rating by the
19 Environmental Protection Agency—

20 (1) of less than 35 miles per gallon on the high-
21 way is eligible to receive from a State \$0.04 per
22 mile, not to exceed 30 miles per day for not more
23 than 5 days a week and 50 weeks a year; and

24 (2) of 35 or more miles per gallon on the high-
25 way is eligible to receive \$0.05 per mile, not to ex-

1 ceed 30 miles per day for not more than 5 days a
2 week and 50 weeks a year.

3 (c) REIMBURSEMENT TRIGGER.—Reimbursement by
4 a commuter will only be available if the average cost of
5 gasoline across the country, as calculated by the American
6 Automobile Association and reported in the daily fuel
7 gauge report, exceeds \$2.75 per gallon and the State has
8 sufficient grant funds to provide such reimbursement.

9 (d) REIMBURSEMENT DISTRIBUTION.—Each State
10 that receives a grant under this section shall establish—

11 (1) an application process for eligible drivers to
12 receive reimbursement; and

13 (2) a schedule for reimbursement for such driv-
14 ers on a monthly or quarterly basis.

15 (e) COMMUTER EXCEPTION.—A commuter who re-
16 ceives any reimbursement for mileage from an employer
17 is not eligible to receive reimbursement from a State under
18 this section.

19 (f) NON-COMMUTER REIMBURSEMENT.—A senior
20 driver and a driver who does not use a commuter vehicle
21 are eligible to receive reimbursement for up to 2,000 miles
22 per year for miles driven in the United States.

23 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-
24 nitions apply:

1 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
2 trator” means the Administrator of the Federal
3 Highway Administration.

4 (2) COMMUTER.—The term “commuter” means
5 an individual, not including an alien who is unlaw-
6 fully present in the United States, who uses a com-
7 muter vehicle as transportation to and from a place
8 of employment in the United States.

9 (3) COMMUTER VEHICLE.—The term “com-
10 muter vehicle” means a passenger vehicle, light
11 truck, or sport utility vehicle if used as transpor-
12 tation to and from a place of employment in the
13 United States.

14 (4) ELIGIBLE DRIVER.—The term “eligible
15 driver” means a non-commuter described in sub-
16 section (e) and a commuter.

17 (5) SENIOR CITIZEN.—The term “senior driv-
18 er” means a driver who is 65 years of age or older.

19 (6) STATE.—The term “State” means each of
20 the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto
21 Rico.

22 (h) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

23 (1) REPORTS TO ADMINISTRATOR.—Beginning
24 not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
25 of this section and each year thereafter during the

1 pilot program, each State that receives funds under
2 this Act shall submit a report to the Administrator
3 regarding implementation of the program.

4 (2) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Beginning not
5 later than 180 days after the date the Administrator
6 receives a report under paragraph (1) and each year
7 thereafter during the pilot program, the Adminis-
8 trator shall submit a report to Congress regarding
9 the effectiveness of State gasoline reimbursement
10 program, including any recommendations for
11 changes to the program.

12 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
13 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
14 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years
15 2008, 2009, and 2010.

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