

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6234

To amend title 23, United States Code, to require corrosion mitigation and prevention plans for bridges receiving Federal funding, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2008

Mr. CONAWAY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 23, United States Code, to require corrosion mitigation and prevention plans for bridges receiving Federal funding, 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 “Bridge Life Extension
5 Act of 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Corrosion of highway bridges costs the
9 United States economy \$8.3 billion each year ac-
10 cording to a Federal Highway Administration report

1 (FHWA–RD–01–157) that was delivered to Con-
2 gress in 2002.

3 (2) The ongoing cost of corrosion on United
4 States highway bridges represents a needless waste
5 of taxpayer dollars.

6 (3) One-third of the ongoing cost of corrosion
7 on United States highway bridges would be saved if
8 existing, fully-developed corrosion prevention tech-
9 nologies were applied to bridge decks and their sub-
10 structures.

11 (4) The application of corrosion technologies to
12 United States highway bridges is necessary, but cur-
13 rently underused.

14 (5) The application of corrosion prevention
15 strategies should be required in the design and reha-
16 bilitation of bridge structures that use Federal fund-
17 ing and the development of new corrosion prevention
18 technologies should be encouraged.

19 **SEC. 3. CORROSION MITIGATION AND PREVENTION PLANS**
20 **FOR BRIDGES RECEIVING FEDERAL FUND-**
21 **ING.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 23, United
23 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 149 the
24 following:

1 **“§ 150. Corrosion mitigation and prevention plans**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may approve Fed-
3 eral assistance for a project for construction of a bridge
4 using amounts apportioned under section 104(b)(1) or
5 104(b)(3) or a project for replacement or rehabilitation
6 of a bridge under section 144 only if—

7 “(1) the State or States applying for such as-
8 sistance develop and submit to the Secretary a cor-
9 rosion mitigation and prevention plan for the bridge;
10 and

11 “(2) the Secretary approves the plan.

12 “(b) PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may ap-
13 prove a corrosion mitigation and prevention plan for a
14 bridge submitted by a State or States under subsection
15 (a) only if the plan contains, at a minimum, the following:

16 “(1) An estimate of the expected useful life of
17 the bridge.

18 “(2) An estimate of environmental exposure of
19 the bridge, including marine, deicer application, in-
20 dustrial, rural, rainfall, temperature, freeze-thaw,
21 and other factors that influence corrosion prevention
22 and corrosion mitigation strategies.

23 “(3) An identification of the functional classi-
24 fication of the bridge.

1 “(4) Details of corrosion mitigation and preven-
2 tion methods that will be used with respect to the
3 bridge, taking into account—

4 “(A) material selection;

5 “(B) coating considerations;

6 “(C) cathodic protection considerations;

7 “(D) design considerations for corrosion;

8 and

9 “(E) concrete requirements.

10 “(5) Details of a project maintenance program
11 for the life of the bridge.

12 “(6) A certification that the plan was developed
13 by the State or States and approved by a corrosion
14 expert.

15 “(7) A certification that each individual con-
16 ducting inspections of Federal-aid highway bridges
17 in the State or States receives training from a corro-
18 sion expert.

19 “(c) APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL.—The Secretary
20 shall approve or disapprove each corrosion mitigation and
21 prevention plan submitted by a State or States under sub-
22 section (a). If the Secretary disapproves a plan, the Sec-
23 retary shall inform the State or States of the reasons for
24 the disapproval and shall permit the State or States to

1 resubmit the plan with such modifications as the Secretary
2 determines necessary.

3 “(d) MODIFICATIONS FOLLOWING PLAN AP-
4 PROVAL.—A State or States may modify a corrosion miti-
5 gation and prevention plan approved under subsection (c)
6 to incorporate newly developed corrosion prevention tech-
7 niques, methods, applications, and best practices if the
8 State or States provide advance written notice of the modi-
9 fication to the Secretary.

10 “(e) CORROSION EXPERT.—In this section, the term
11 “corrosion expert” means an individual who is accredited
12 or certified as being qualified by an international technical
13 society dedicated to the mitigation and prevention of cor-
14 rosion or who is a registered professional engineer who
15 has certification or licensing that includes education and
16 experience in corrosion prevention and control of bridges.

17 “(f) APPLICABILITY.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—This section shall take ef-
19 fect beginning on the first day of the second fiscal
20 year beginning after the date of enactment of this
21 section.

22 “(2) WAIVERS.—Notwithstanding paragraph
23 (1), the Secretary may waive the application of re-
24 quirements of this section with respect to a bridge

1 for the 6-month period beginning on the first day re-
2 ferred to in paragraph (1) if—

3 “(A) a corrosion mitigation and prevention
4 plan has been submitted for the bridge before
5 such first day; and

6 “(B) the Secretary determines that such a
7 waiver is appropriate.

8 “(g) FUNDING.—Funds made available to a State
9 under sections 104(b)(1), 104(b)(3), and 144 may be used
10 by the State for activities to comply with the requirements
11 of this section.”.

12 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such
13 chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating
14 to section 149 the following:

“150. Corrosion mitigation and prevention plans.”.

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