

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1531

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to award grants to States that have enacted and are enforcing certain laws with respect to stretch limousines, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 10, 2021

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to award grants to States that have enacted and are enforcing certain laws with respect to stretch limousines, 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 “Take Unsafe Limos
5 Off the Road Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR SAFETY OF STRETCH LIM-**
 2 **OUSINES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter IV of chapter 311 of
 4 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
 5 end the following:

6 **“§ 31162. Grant program for safety of stretch lim-**
 7 **ousines**

8 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 “(1) ELIGIBLE DEFECT.—The term ‘eligible de-
 10 fect’ means a defect that would cause a motor vehi-
 11 cle to fail a commercial motor vehicle safety inspec-
 12 tion.

13 “(2) PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term
 14 ‘passenger motor vehicle’ has the meaning given the
 15 term in section 32101.

16 “(3) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
 17 the Secretary of Transportation.

18 “(4) STRETCH LIMOUSINE.—The term ‘stretch
 19 limousine’ means a new or used passenger motor ve-
 20 hicle that—

21 “(A) has been modified, altered, or ex-
 22 tended in a manner that increases the overall
 23 wheelbase of the vehicle—

24 “(i) beyond the wheelbase dimension
 25 of the original equipment manufacturer for
 26 the base model and year of the vehicle; and

1 “(ii) to a length sufficient to accom-
2 modate additional passengers; and

3 “(B) after being altered as described in
4 subparagraph (A), has a seating capacity of not
5 fewer than 9 passengers, including the driver.

6 “(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—Each fiscal year, the Sec-
7 retary shall make a grant, in accordance with this section,
8 to each State that is eligible for a grant under subsection
9 (c).

10 “(c) ELIGIBILITY.—A State is eligible for a grant
11 under this section for a fiscal year if, on October 1 of that
12 fiscal year, the State—

13 “(1) has enacted a law that requires the im-
14 poundment or immobilization of a stretch limousine
15 that is found to have an eligible defect on inspection;
16 and

17 “(2) is enforcing the law described in para-
18 graph (1), as determined by the Secretary.

19 “(d) GRANT AMOUNTS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on October 1 of
21 the first fiscal year beginning after the date of en-
22 actment of this section, the Secretary shall apportion
23 the amounts appropriated to carry out this section
24 to each State that is eligible to receive a grant under

1 subsection (c) in an amount that is equal to the
 2 quotient obtained by dividing—

3 “(A) the difference between—

4 “(i) \$5,000,000; and

5 “(ii) the total amount provided to
 6 States under paragraph (2); and

7 “(B) the number of States eligible for a
 8 grant under subsection (c) for the fiscal year.

9 “(2) INCREASE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—Begin-
 10 ning on October 1 of the first fiscal year beginning
 11 after the date of enactment of this section, a State
 12 that is eligible for a grant under subsection (c) may
 13 receive an additional \$50,000 in grant funds if, on
 14 October 1 of that fiscal year, the State has enacted
 15 and is enforcing a law or regulation that requires—

16 “(A) any safety inspection of a stretch lim-
 17 ousine to be conducted at a designated site con-
 18 trolled by the State; and

19 “(B) the inspection described in subpara-
 20 graph (A) to be conducted by employees trained
 21 in the inspection of stretch limousines.

22 “(e) USE OF FUNDS.—A State receiving a grant
 23 under this section may use grant amounts—

24 “(1) for the impoundment or immobilization of
 25 a stretch limousine;

1 “(2) for the establishment and operating ex-
2 penses of designated stretch limousine safety inspec-
3 tion sites; or

4 “(3) to train employees in the inspection of
5 stretch limousines.

6 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
7 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry
8 out this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021
9 through 2024.”.

10 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for sub-
11 chapter IV of chapter 311 of title 49 is amended by insert-
12 ing after the item relating to section 31161 the following:

 “31162. Grant program for safety of stretch limousines.”.

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