

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To reauthorize and improve the wildlife crossings program, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Ms. ALSOBROOKS (for herself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. CURTIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To reauthorize and improve the wildlife crossings 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 “Wildlife Crossings Pro-  
5       gram Reauthorization Act of 2025”.

6       **SEC. 2. WILDLIFE CROSSINGS PROGRAM.**

7       (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

8               (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be  
9       appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other  
10       than the Mass Transit Account) for the wildlife

1 crossings program under section 171 of title 23,  
2 United States Code, \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal  
3 years 2027 through 2031.

4 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Notwithstanding any other  
5 provision of law, amounts made available under  
6 paragraph (1) shall be available until expended.

7 (b) WILDLIFE CROSSINGS PROGRAM.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 171 of title 23,  
9 United States Code, is amended—

10 (A) in the section heading, by striking  
11 “**pilot**”;

12 (B) by striking “pilot” each place it ap-  
13 pears;

14 (C) by redesignating subsections (h) and  
15 (i) as subsections (k) and (l), respectively; and

16 (D) by inserting after subsection (g) the  
17 following:

18 “(h) FEDERAL SHARE FOR SMALL, RURAL, AND DIS-  
19 ADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
21 in the case of a grant under the program provided  
22 to an eligible entity for the benefit of a small, rural,  
23 or disadvantaged community, the Federal share of  
24 the cost of the project shall be 90 percent.

1           “(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may increase the  
2       Federal share under paragraph (1) to 100 percent  
3       if the Secretary determines that the eligible entity is  
4       unable to pay, or would experience significant finan-  
5       cial hardship if required to pay, the non-Federal  
6       share.

7       “(i) TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

8           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may use an  
9       amount equal to not more than 0.5 percent of the  
10      amounts made available to carry out the program  
11      for each fiscal year to improve the ability of eligible  
12      entities described in subsection (c)(6) to access fund-  
13      ing for projects under the program in an efficient  
14      and expeditious manner by providing to those enti-  
15      ties application assistance, technical assistance, and  
16      assistance in reducing the period of time between  
17      the selection of the project and the obligation of  
18      funds for the project.

19       “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts used under  
20      paragraph (1) may be expended—

21           “(A) by the Secretary; or

22           “(B) through contracts with—

23               “(i) a Federal, Tribal, regional, or  
24               State government entity;

25               “(ii) a private entity; or

1 “(iii) a nonprofit entity.

2 “(j) GRANT ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary may  
3 retain not more than a total of 0.5 percent of the amounts  
4 made available to carry out the program for each fiscal  
5 year—

6 “(1) to review applications for grants under the  
7 program;

8 “(2) to obligate and administer grant awards  
9 selected under the program; and

10 “(3) to carry out the requirements of—

11 “(A) section 172; and

12 “(B) subsections (b)(6) and (i)(3) of sec-  
13 tion 144.”.

14 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for  
15 chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amend-  
16 ed by striking the item relating to section 171 and  
17 inserting the following:

“171. Wildlife crossings program.”.