

construction of particular highways to carry out the purposes of this section.

“(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed as creating any obligation in the Congress, express or implied, to carry out the recommendations referred to in subsections (b) and (c).

“(e) There is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be available until expended, the sum of \$800,000 for the purpose of making the studies, surveys, and report authorized by subsections (a) and (b) hereof.”

§ 506. International highway transportation outreach program

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary may establish an international highway transportation outreach program—

(1) to inform the United States highway community of technological innovations in foreign countries that could significantly improve highway transportation in the United States;

(2) to promote United States highway transportation expertise, goods, and services in foreign countries; and

(3) to increase transfers of United States highway transportation technology to foreign countries.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—Activities carried out under the program may include—

(1) the development, monitoring, assessment, and dissemination in the United States of information about highway transportation innovations in foreign countries that could significantly improve highway transportation in the United States;

(2) research, development, demonstration, training, and other forms of technology transfer and exchange;

(3) the provision to foreign countries, through participation in trade shows, seminars, expositions, and other similar activities, of information relating to the technical quality of United States highway transportation goods and services;

(4) the offering of technical services of the Federal Highway Administration that cannot be readily obtained from private sector firms in the United States for incorporation into the proposals of those firms undertaking highway transportation projects outside the United States, if the costs of the technical services will be recovered under the terms of the project;

(5) the conduct of studies to assess the need for, or feasibility of, highway transportation improvements in foreign countries; and

(6) the gathering and dissemination of information on foreign transportation markets and industries.

(c) COOPERATION.—The Secretary may carry out this section in cooperation with any appropriate—

- (1) Federal, State, or local agency;
- (2) authority, association, institution, or organization;
- (3) for-profit or nonprofit corporation;
- (4) national or international entity;
- (5) foreign country; or
- (6) person.

(d) FUNDS.—

(1) CONTRIBUTIONS.—Funds available to carry out this section shall include funds deposited by any cooperating organization or person into a special account of the Treasury established for this purpose.

(2) ELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDS.—The funds deposited into the account, and other funds available to carry out this section, shall be available to cover the cost of any activity eligible under this section, including the cost of—

- (A) promotional materials;
- (B) travel;
- (C) reception and representation expenses; and
- (D) salaries and benefits.

(3) REIMBURSEMENTS FOR SALARIES AND BENEFITS.—Reimbursements for salaries and benefits of Department employees providing services under this section shall be credited to the account.

(e) REPORT.—For each fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report that describes the destinations and individual trip costs of international travel conducted in carrying out activities described in this section.

(Added Pub. L. 105-178, title V, § 5106, June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 433; amended Pub. L. 109-59, title V, § 5206(a), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1795.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 506, added Pub. L. 90-495, § 30, Aug. 23, 1968, 82 Stat. 832; amended Pub. L. 91-605, title I, § 137, Dec. 31, 1970, 84 Stat. 1735, related to replacement housing, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 91-646, title II, § 220(a)(10), Jan. 2, 1971, 84 Stat. 1903.

AMENDMENTS

2005—Pub. L. 109-59 reenacted section catchline without change and amended text generally, substituting provisions relating to international highway transportation outreach program for similar former provisions which related to, in subsec. (a), establishment of an international highway transportation outreach program, in subsec. (b), activities which could be carried out under the program, in subsec. (c), cooperation with other entities, in subsec. (d), funding, and, in subsec. (e), State obligation of funds.

§ 507. Surface transportation-environmental cooperative research program

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a surface transportation-environmental cooperative research program.

(b) CONTENTS.—The program carried out under this section may include research—

(1) to develop more accurate models for evaluating transportation control measures and transportation system designs that are appropriate for use by State and local governments (including metropolitan planning organizations) in designing implementation plans to meet Federal, State, and local environmental requirements;

(2) to improve understanding of the factors that contribute to the demand for transportation;

(3) to develop indicators of economic, social, and environmental performance of transportation systems to facilitate analysis of potential alternatives;

(4) to meet additional priorities as determined by the Secretary in the strategic planning process under section 508; and

(5) to refine, through the conduct of workshops, symposia, and panels, and in consultation with stakeholders (including the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other appropriate Federal and State agencies and associations) the scope and research emphases of the program.

(c) PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall—

(1) administer the program established under this section; and

(2) ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that—

(A) the best projects and researchers are selected to conduct research in the priority areas described in subsection (b)—

(i) on the basis of merit of each submitted proposal; and

(ii) through the use of open solicitations and selection by a panel of appropriate experts;

(B) a qualified, permanent core staff with the ability and expertise to manage a large multiyear budget is used;

(C) the stakeholders are involved in the governance of the program, at the executive, overall program, and technical levels, through the use of expert panels and committees; and

(D) there is no duplication of research effort between the program established under this section and the new strategic highway research program established under section 510.

(d) NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—The Secretary may make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, the National Academy of Sciences to carry out such activities relating to the research, technology, and technology transfer activities described in subsections (b) and (c) as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(Added Pub. L. 105–178, title V, §5107, June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 434; amended Pub. L. 109–59, title V, §5207(a), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1797.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 507, added Pub. L. 90–495, §30, Aug. 23, 1968, 82 Stat. 832, related to expenses incidental to transfer of property, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 91–646, title II, §220(a)(10), Jan. 2, 1971, 84 Stat. 1903.

AMENDMENTS

2005—Pub. L. 109–59 amended section catchline and text generally, substituting provisions relating to establishment of a surface transportation-environmental cooperative research program, contents of program, administration of program by the Secretary, and grants and agreements with the National Academy of Sciences, for provisions relating to establishment of a surface transportation-environment cooperative research program, contents of program, establishment of an advisory board to recommend environmental and energy conservation research, technology, and tech-

nology transfer activities, and grants and agreements with the National Academy of Sciences.

§ 508. Transportation research and development strategic planning

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the SAFETEA-LU, the Secretary shall develop a 5-year transportation research and development strategic plan to guide Federal transportation research and development activities. This plan shall be consistent with section 306 of title 5, sections 1115 and 1116 of title 31, and any other research and development plan within the Department of Transportation.

(2) CONTENTS.—The strategic plan developed under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) describe the primary purposes of the transportation research and development program, which shall include, at a minimum—

(i) reducing congestion and improving mobility;

(ii) promoting safety;

(iii) promoting security;

(iv) protecting and enhancing the environment;

(v) preserving the existing transportation system; and

(vi) improving the durability and extending the life of transportation infrastructure;

(B) for each purpose, list the primary research and development topics that the Department intends to pursue to accomplish that purpose, which may include the fundamental research in the physical and natural sciences, applied research, technology development, and social science research intended for each topic; and

(C) for each research and development topic, describe—

(i) the anticipated annual funding levels for the period covered by the strategic plan; and

(ii) the additional information the Department expects to gain at the end of the period covered by the strategic plan as a result of the research and development in that topic area.

(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the strategic plan, the Secretary shall ensure that the plan—

(A) reflects input from a wide range of stakeholders;

(B) includes and integrates the research and development programs of all the Department's operating administrations, including aviation, transit, rail, and maritime; and

(C) takes into account how research and development by other Federal, State, private sector, and nonprofit institutions contributes to the achievement of the purposes identified under paragraph (2)(A), and avoids unnecessary duplication with these efforts.

(4) PERFORMANCE PLANS AND REPORTS.—In reports submitted under sections 1115 and 1116 of title 31, the Secretary shall include—

(A) a summary of the Federal transportation research and development activities