

of the Federal Highway Administration (commonly referred to as ‘SEP-15’); and

“(ii) protect the public interest and any public investment in public transportation capital projects that involve public-private partnerships or private investment in public transportation capital projects.

“(2) TRANSPARENCY.—The Secretary shall develop guidance to promote greater transparency and public access to public-private partnership agreements involving recipients of Federal assistance under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, including—

“(A) any conflict of interest involving any party involved in the public-private partnership;

“(B) tax and financing aspects related to a public-private partnership agreement;

“(C) changes in the workforce and wages, benefits, or rules as a result of a public-private partnership;

“(D) estimates of the revenue or savings the public-private partnership will produce for the private entity and public entity;

“(E) any impacts on other developments and transportation modes as a result of non-compete clauses contained in public-private partnership agreements; and

“(F) any other issues the Secretary believes will increase transparency of public-private partnership agreements and protect the public interest.

“(3) ASSESSMENT.—In developing and implementing the guidance under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall encourage project sponsors to conduct assessments to determine whether use of a public-private partnership represents a better public and financial benefit than a similar transaction using public funding or public project delivery.

“(4) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act [see section 3(a), (b) of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as Effective and Termination Dates of 2012 Amendment notes under section 101 of Title 23, Highways], the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the status of the procedures, approaches, and guidance developed and implemented under paragraphs (1) and (2).

“(5) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue rules to carry out the procedures and approaches developed under paragraph (1).

“(6) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to allow the Secretary to waive any requirement under—

“(A) section 5333 of title 49, United States Code;

“(B) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); or

“(C) any other provision of Federal law.”

**[[§§ 5316, 5317. Repealed. Pub. L. 112-141, div. B, § 20002(a), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 622]**

Section 5316, added Pub. L. 109-59, title III, § 3018(a), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1601, related to job access and reverse commute formula grants.

A prior section 5316, Pub. L. 103-272, § 1(d), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 814; Pub. L. 104-59, title III, § 338(c)(5), Nov. 28, 1995, 109 Stat. 605, related to university research institutes, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-178, title V, § 5110(c), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 444.

Section 5317, added Pub. L. 109-59, title III, § 3019(a), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1605, related to the New Freedom grant program to assist individuals with disabilities with public transportation.

A prior section 5317, Pub. L. 103-272, § 1(d), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 815; Pub. L. 104-287, § 5(14), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3390; Pub. L. 105-178, title III, § 3029(b)(7), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 372, related to transportation centers, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-178, title V, § 5110(c), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 444.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective Oct. 1, 2012, see section 3(a) of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as an Effective and Termination

Dates of 2012 Amendment note under section 101 of Title 23, Highways.

**§ 5318. Bus testing facility**

(a) FACILITY.—The Secretary shall maintain one facility for testing a new bus model for maintainability, reliability, safety, performance (including braking performance), structural integrity, fuel economy, emissions, and noise.

(b) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.—The Secretary shall enter into a contract or cooperative agreement with, or make a grant to, a qualified person or organization to operate and maintain the facility. The contract, cooperative agreement, or grant may provide for the testing of rail cars and other public transportation vehicles at the facility.

(c) FEES.—The person operating and maintaining the facility shall establish and collect fees for the testing of vehicles at the facility. The Secretary must approve the fees.

(d) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS TO PAY FOR TESTING.—The Secretary shall enter into a contract or cooperative agreement with, or make a grant to, the operator of the facility under which the Secretary shall pay 80 percent of the cost of testing a vehicle at the facility from amounts available to carry out this section. The entity having the vehicle tested shall pay 20 percent of the cost.

(e) ACQUIRING NEW BUS MODELS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts appropriated or otherwise made available under this chapter may be obligated or expended to acquire a new bus model only if—

(A) a bus of that model has been tested at a facility authorized under subsection (a); and

(B) the bus tested under subparagraph (A) met—

(i) performance standards for maintainability, reliability, performance (including braking performance), structural integrity, fuel economy, emissions, and noise, as established by the Secretary by rule; and

(ii) the minimum safety performance standards established by the Secretary pursuant to section 5329(b).

(2) BUS TEST “PASS/FAIL” STANDARD.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2012, the Secretary shall issue a final rule under subparagraph (B)(i). The final rule issued under paragraph<sup>1</sup> (B)(i) shall include a bus model scoring system that results in a weighted, aggregate score that uses the testing categories under subsection (a) and considers the relative importance of each such testing category. The final rule issued under subparagraph (B)(i) shall establish a “pass/fail” standard that uses the aggregate score described in the preceding sentence. Amounts appropriated or otherwise made available under this chapter may be obligated or expended to acquire a new bus model only if the new bus model has received a passing aggregate test score. The Secretary shall work with

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “subparagraph”.