

107TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2884

To improve transit service in rural areas, including for the elderly and disabled.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 1, 2002

Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. ENZI, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. ALLARD) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

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## A BILL

To improve transit service in rural areas, including for the elderly and disabled.

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 “Maximum Economic  
5 Growth for America through Investment in Rural, Elderly,  
6 and Disabled Transit Act” or the “MEGA RED TRANS  
7 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MINIMUM LEVEL OF FUNDING FOR ELDERLY AND**  
 2 **DISABLED PROGRAM.**

3 Section 5310 of title 49, United States Code, is  
 4 amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b), in the first sentence, by  
 6 striking the period at the end and inserting the fol-  
 7 lowing: “, provided that, for fiscal years 2004, 2005,  
 8 and 2006, each State shall receive annually, of the  
 9 amounts apportioned under this section, a minimum  
 10 of double the amount apportioned to the State in fis-  
 11 cal year 2003 or \$1,000,000, whichever is greater,  
 12 and that for fiscal years 2007, 2008, and 2009, each  
 13 State shall receive annually, of the amounts appor-  
 14 tioned under this section, a minimum equal to the  
 15 minimum required to be apportioned to the State for  
 16 fiscal year 2006 plus \$500,000.”; and

17 (2) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(k) AMOUNTS FOR OPERATING ASSISTANCE.—  
 19 Amounts made available under this section may be used  
 20 for operating assistance.

21 “(l) AVAILABLE FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other  
 22 provision of law, of the aggregate amounts made available  
 23 by and appropriated under this chapter, the amount made  
 24 available to provide transportation services to elderly indi-  
 25 viduals and individuals with disabilities under this section  
 26 in each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2009, shall be

1 not less than the amount necessary to match the minimum  
2 apportionment levels required by subsection (b).”.

3 **SEC. 3. MINIMUM LEVEL OF FUNDING FOR RURAL PRO-**  
4 **GRAM.**

5 Section 5311 of title 49, United States Code, is  
6 amended—

7 (1) in subsection (c), in the first sentence, by  
8 striking the period at the end and inserting the fol-  
9 lowing: “, provided that none of the 50 States shall  
10 receive, from the amounts annually apportioned  
11 under this section, an apportionment of less than  
12 \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004, 2005, and  
13 2006, and \$5,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2007,  
14 2008, and 2009.”; and

15 (2) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(k) AMOUNTS.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
17 sion of law, of the aggregate amounts made available by  
18 and appropriated under this chapter, the amount made  
19 available for the program established by this section in  
20 each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be not less  
21 than the sum of—

22 “(1) the amount made available for all States  
23 for such purpose for fiscal year 2003; and

24 “(2)(A) for each of fiscal years 2004, 2005, and  
25 2006, the amount equal to the difference between

1       \$5,000,000 and the apportionment for fiscal year  
 2       2003, for each of those individual States that were  
 3       apportioned less than \$5,000,000 under this section  
 4       for fiscal year 2003; or

5               “(B) for each of fiscal years 2007, 2008, and  
 6       2009, the amount equal to the difference between  
 7       \$5,500,000 and the apportionment for fiscal year  
 8       2003, for each of those individual States that were  
 9       apportioned less than \$5,500,000 under this section  
 10       for fiscal year 2003.”.

11 **SEC. 4. ESSENTIAL BUS SERVICE.**

12       (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 53 of title 49, United  
 13 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
 14 lowing:

15 **“§ 5339. Essential bus service**

16       “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a  
 17 program under which States shall provide essential bus  
 18 service between rural areas and primary airports, as de-  
 19 fined in section 47102, and between rural areas and sta-  
 20 tions for intercity passenger rail service, and appropriate  
 21 intermediate or nearby points.

22       “(b) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Eligible activities under  
 23 the program established by this section shall include—

24               “(1) planning and marketing for intercity bus  
 25       transportation;

1           “(2) capital grants for intercity bus shelters,  
2           park and ride facilities, and joint use facilities;

3           “(3) operating grants, including direct assist-  
4           ance, purchase of service agreements, user-side sub-  
5           sidies, demonstration projects, and other means; and

6           “(4) enhancement of connections between bus  
7           service and commercial air passenger service and  
8           intercity passenger rail service.

9           “(c) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts made  
10          available pursuant to this section shall remain available  
11          until expended.

12          “(d) RELATIONSHIP TO SECTION 5311.—Amounts  
13          for the program established by this section shall be appor-  
14          tioned to the States in the same proportion as amounts  
15          apportioned to the States under section 5311. Section  
16          5311(j) applies to this section.

17          “(e) FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision  
18          of law, of the aggregate amounts made available by and  
19          appropriated under this chapter—

20                 “(1) for fiscal years 2004, 2005, and 2006,  
21                 \$30,000,000 of the total for each fiscal year shall be  
22                 for the implementation of this section; and

23                 “(2) for fiscal years 2007, 2008, and 2009,  
24                 \$35,000,000 of the total for each fiscal year shall be  
25                 for the implementation of this section.”.

1 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—  
 2 The table of sections for chapter 53 of title 49, United  
 3 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
 4 lowing:

“5339. Essential bus service.”.

5 **SEC. 5. MINIMUM LEVEL OF FUNDING FOR URBANIZED**  
 6 **AREAS WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN**  
 7 **200,000.**

8 (a) MINIMUM APPORTIONMENT.—Section 5336(a)(1)  
 9 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking  
 10 “mile; and” and inserting the following: “mile,  
 11 provided that the apportionments under this para-  
 12 graph shall be modified to the extent required so  
 13 that urbanized areas that are eligible under this  
 14 paragraph and are located in a State in which all ur-  
 15 banized areas in the State eligible under this para-  
 16 graph collectively receive apportionments totaling  
 17 less than \$5,000,000 in any of fiscal years 2004,  
 18 2005, or 2006, or less than \$5,500,000 in any of fis-  
 19 cal years 2007, 2008, or 2009, shall each have their  
 20 apportionments increased, proportionately, to the ex-  
 21 tent that, collectively, all of the urbanized areas in  
 22 the State that are eligible under this paragraph re-  
 23 ceive, of the amounts apportioned annually under  
 24 this paragraph, \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years

1       2004, 2005, and 2006, and \$5,500,000 for each of  
2       fiscal years 2007, 2008, and 2009; and”.

3       (b) FUNDS.—Section 5307 of title 49, United States  
4 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

5       “(o) FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision  
6 of law, of the aggregate amounts made available by and  
7 appropriated under this chapter, in each of the fiscal years  
8 2004 through 2009, the amount made available for the  
9 program established by this section shall be not less than  
10 the sum of—

11               “(1) the amount made available for such pur-  
12               pose for fiscal year 2003; and

13               “(2) the amount equal to the sum of the in-  
14               crease in apportionments for that fiscal year over  
15               fiscal year 2003, to urbanized areas with a popu-  
16               lation of less than 200,000, in affected States, at-  
17               tributable to the operation of section 5336(a)(1).”.

18 **SEC. 6. LEVEL PLAYING FIELD FOR GOVERNMENT SHARE.**

19       (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 53 of title 49, United  
20 States Code, as amended by this Act, is amended by add-  
21 ing at the end the following:

22 **“§ 5340. Government share**

23       “With respect to amounts apportioned or otherwise  
24 distributed for fiscal year 2004 and each subsequent fiscal

1 year, the Government share of eligible transit project costs  
 2 or eligible operating costs, shall be the greater of—

3 “(1) the share applicable under other provisions  
 4 of this chapter; or

5 “(2) the share that would apply, in the State in  
 6 which the transit project or operation is located, to  
 7 a highway project under section 133 of title 23.”.

8 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—

9 The table of sections for chapter 53 of title 49, United  
 10 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
 11 lowing:

“5340. Government share.”.

12 **SEC. 7. INTEREST CREDITED TO MASS TRANSIT ACCOUNT.**

13 Section 9503(f)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of  
 14 1986 (relating to the Highway Trust Fund) is amended  
 15 by striking the period at the end and inserting the fol-  
 16 lowing: “, provided that after September 30, 2003, inter-  
 17 est accruing on the balance in the Mass Transit Account  
 18 shall be credited to such account.”.

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