

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3858

Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for the TIGER  
Discretionary Grant program, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 27, 2017

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California (for herself, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. TORRES, Ms. MOORE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KEATING, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. LEE, Mr. NOLAN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. RUSH, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SIRES, Mr. ESPALLAT, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. CORREA, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. WALZ, Mr. HECK, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. BASS, and Mr. CÁRDENAS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for

the TIGER Discretionary Grant 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 “Transportation Infra-  
5 structure for Job Creation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds the following:

8           (1) Investments in infrastructure create jobs  
9 while fulfilling critical needs in communities  
10 throughout the United States.

11          (2) According to the Brookings Institution,  
12 nearly 14.5 million workers—11 percent of the U.S.  
13 workforce—were employed in infrastructure jobs in  
14 2013.

15          (3) According to data from the Brookings Insti-  
16 tution, infrastructure occupations often provide more  
17 competitive and equitable wages in comparison to all  
18 jobs nationally, consistently paying up to 30 percent  
19 more to low-income workers over the past decade.

20          (4) The American Society of Civil Engineers  
21 gave the infrastructure of the United States an over-  
22 all grade of “D+” in 2017 and estimated that the  
23 United States will need to invest \$4.59 trillion by  
24 2025 in order to improve the condition of the Na-

1        tion’s infrastructure and bring it to a state of good  
2        repair.

3            (5) The American Society of Civil Engineers as-  
4        signed a “D” grade to the Nation’s roads, a “C+”  
5        grade to the Nation’s bridges, and a “D–” grade  
6        to the Nation’s transit systems and estimated that  
7        the United States will need to invest \$2.04 trillion  
8        by 2025 to bring the Nation’s surface transportation  
9        infrastructure to a state of good repair.

10           (6) TIGER, formally known as the Transpor-  
11        tation Investment Generating Economic Recovery  
12        grant program, is a nationwide competitive grant  
13        program that creates jobs by funding investments in  
14        transportation infrastructure by States, local govern-  
15        ments, and transit agencies.

16           (7) TIGER funds projects that will have a sig-  
17        nificant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area,  
18        or a region.

19           (8) In distributing grants under TIGER, the  
20        Secretary of Transportation is required to ensure an  
21        equitable geographic distribution of funds, a balance  
22        in addressing the needs of urban and rural areas,  
23        and investments in a variety of modes of transpor-  
24        tation.

1           (9) TIGER received an appropriation of  
2           \$600,000,000 in fiscal year 2014, an appropriation  
3           of \$500,000,000 in fiscal year 2015, and an appro-  
4           priation of \$500,000,000 in fiscal year 2016.

5           (10) Past appropriations for TIGER are not  
6           sufficient to address the need for investments in  
7           transportation infrastructure in communities  
8           throughout the United States as the amounts only  
9           fund a small fraction of the transportation infra-  
10          structure projects for which TIGER grant applica-  
11          tions have been received.

12          (11) Appropriating \$7.5 billion in fiscal year  
13          2017 for TIGER and allowing the funds to remain  
14          available for 6 years will enable the Secretary of  
15          Transportation to begin immediately to expand in-  
16          vestments in transportation infrastructure throughout  
17          the United States.

18          (12) Restricting appropriations for TIGER  
19          through the use of arbitrary budget caps or seques-  
20          tration undermines economic recovery and job cre-  
21          ation efforts; disrupts planning by States, local gov-  
22          ernments, and transit agencies; and leaves critical  
23          infrastructure needs unmet.

24          (13) Emergency supplemental appropriations  
25          for TIGER, provided in addition to other appropria-

1 tions and not subject to sequestration, will improve  
 2 transportation infrastructure and create jobs  
 3 throughout the United States without reducing  
 4 funding for other domestic priorities.

5 (14) An emergency supplemental appropriation  
 6 of \$7.5 billion for TIGER to be made available in  
 7 fiscal year 2017 and to remain available for 6 years  
 8 will allow the Secretary of Transportation to begin  
 9 immediately to organize new competitions for  
 10 TIGER grants and allow States, local governments,  
 11 and transit agencies to prepare grant applications,  
 12 thus ensuring an efficient use of funds and timely  
 13 job creation.

14 **SEC. 3. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR TIGER DIS-**  
 15 **CRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM.**

16 The following sums are appropriated, out of any  
 17 money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for fis-  
 18 cal year 2017:

19 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 20 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
 21 NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

22 For an additional amount for “National Infrastruc-  
 23 ture Investments” in accordance with the provisions under  
 24 this heading in title I of division K of Public Law 115–  
 25 31, \$7,500,000,000, to remain available through Sep-

1 tember 30, 2022: *Provided*, That the amount under this  
2 heading is designated by the Congress as an emergency  
3 requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Bal-  
4 anced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985,  
5 except that such amount shall be available only if the  
6 President subsequently so designates such amount and  
7 transmits such designation to the Congress.

8 **SEC. 4. EXEMPTION FROM SEQUESTRATION.**

9       The appropriation in section 3 shall be exempt from  
10 sequestration under the Balanced Budget and Emergency  
11 Deficit Control Act of 1985.

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