



Fact Sheet: Views and Estimates of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for Fiscal Year 2015

Background Information

- Under current law and House rules, standing committees are required to submit to the Committee on the Budget views and estimates. The Budget Act sets April 15th as the date for the completion of the congressional budget resolution.

Summary

- States that investment in transportation infrastructure is necessary to ensure the safe and efficient movement of people and goods, increase economic growth and maintain our global economic competitiveness.
- Acknowledges that the 112th Congress approved and the President signed authorization bills for surface transportation, pipelines, hazardous materials transportation, aviation, and the U.S. Coast Guard.
- One of the Committee's highest priorities is to request a deficit-neutral reserve fund for surface transportation and an allocation for contract authority that reflects baseline levels plus inflation in the budget resolution. A reserve fund and adjusted allocation are critical for the success of the surface transportation reauthorization bill.
- Reauthorization of Federal Surface Transportation Programs: MAP-21 is set to expire on September 30, 2014. As a result, reauthorization of federal surface transportation programs is a priority for the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure this year. The Committee looks forward to working with the other Committees of jurisdiction to address the challenges facing the Highway Trust Fund and to ensure that the framework is in place to enact a bill.

- Water Resources Development Act: The Committee's intends to finalize a Water Resources Development Act. The final conference report will address the needs of ports, inland waterways, flood protection, environmental protection, and other programs of the Corps.
- Passenger Rail Reform Legislation: The Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (PRIIA) reauthorized the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, better known as Amtrak, and strengthens the U.S. passenger rail network by tasking Amtrak, the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration, States, and other stakeholders in improving service, operations, and facilities. PRIIA was a five-year reauthorization bill covering FY 2009 through FY 2013, and the Committee intends to enact a reauthorization bill in the 113th Congress.
- Coast Guard Reauthorization: On February 11, 2014, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure ordered reported the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2014. The measure authorizes funding for the Coast Guard for fiscal year (FY) 2015 and FY 2016 at the FY 2014 level. The Committee intends to enact a reauthorization bill in the 113th Congress.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency: In the 113th Congress, the Committee intends to reauthorize FEMA and provide FEMA with the tools it needs to streamline its mitigation, disaster response, and recovery efforts to act quickly and effectively in the face of disaster.
- Federal Aviation Administration's Aviation Insurance Program: The current authority to provide aviation insurance expires on September 30, 2014. The Committee intends to review and reauthorize the aviation insurance program.
- General Services Administration – Federal Real Property and Public Buildings: The proper management of Federal assets will continue to be a major focus of the Committee's oversight activities during the 113th Congress. In the area of public buildings, the Committee intends to address a number of issues concerning the Public Buildings Service of the General Services Administration (GSA). These issues include leasing reforms, the improvement of building utilization rates, the continued viability of the Federal Buildings Fund (FBF), GSA's courthouse construction program, redeveloping or disposing of vacant or under-utilized space, and reigning in the dispersal of independent authorities.
- Wastewater Infrastructure Financing: The Committee intends to conduct oversight of wastewater treatment and water pollution control funding issues, including levels and

sources of funding, management of grant and loan programs, and an assessment of infrastructure needs.

- Maritime Infrastructure: The Committee intends to conduct oversight on ways to reinvigorate the U.S. maritime industry, including the impact of the MAP-21 provision on the economic competitiveness of the U.S.-flag fleet.

Amendments

No amendments expected.

Statement of Administration Policy

None.

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