

**Status
of
Reauthorization
of
TEA-21**

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Status of Reauthorization of TEA-21

- The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) was enacted on June 9, 1998.
- TEA-21 authorized the Federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety and transit for the 6-year period from 1998-2003.

Status of Reauthorization of TEA-21

- TEA-21 guaranteed funding for highways and transit:
 - Highway - \$162 billion
 - Transit - \$36 billion
 - Total - \$198 billion
- Authorizations in TEA-21 for 1998-2003 exceeded the guaranteed funding levels by \$15 billion for highway, and \$5 billion for transit.

Status of Reauthorization of TEA-21

- TEA-21 expired on September 30, 2003.
- COUNTDOWN – It's been 574 days since TEA-21 expired.
- Six Surface Transportation Extension Acts (STEAs).
 - Just before the end of fiscal year 2004, the President signed into law the latest extension – STEA 04 – Part V which will keep the highway program running through May of 2005.

Status of Reauthorization of TEA-21

- The Administration's reauthorization proposal is one of several long-term proposals for reauthorizing highway, highway safety, and transit programs that have been introduced.
- In May 2003, the Administration's proposal, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2003 (SAFETEA), was introduced as S.1072 in the Senate and H.R. 2088 in the House. Funding level was \$256 billion.

Status of Reauthorization of TEA-21

- The Department of Transportation's 2006 Budget request includes a \$28 billion funding increase for the President's 6-year Surface Transportation reauthorization proposal, SAFETEA, from \$256 billion to \$284 billion.
- The increase in funding was made possible by legislation signed by the President last year that directs ethanol tax receipts into the Highway Trust Fund and combats fraud.

Status of Reauthorization of TEA-21

- SAFETEA provides the blueprint for investment that allows state and local governments to tackle gridlock in new and innovative ways to improve overall safety and performance of our transportation system.
- Emphasis on:
 - Safety
 - Freight
 - Operations

Status of Reauthorization of TEA-21

- On March 10, 2005, the House passed the Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, TEA-LU, as H.R. 3. Funding level is \$284 Billion.
- On March 16, 2005, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW) ordered report S.732, Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2005, (SAFETEA). No budget title.

Guaranteed Funding

Current Law	Administration Proposal H.R. 2088 & S. 1072 as Modified SAFETEA of 2003	House H.R. 3 as Passed House TEA-LU	Senate S. 732 as Reported SAFETEA of 2005
<p>Provides \$198 billion of guaranteed funding for the period 1998-2003, with \$162 for highways, highway safety, and motor carrier safety and \$36 billion for mass transit.</p>	<p>Provides \$283.9 billion of guaranteed funding for the period 2004-2009, with \$235 billion for highways, highway safety and motor carrier safety and \$49 billion for mass transit.</p>	<p>Provides \$284.0 billion of guaranteed funding for the period 2004-2009, with \$231.651 for highways, highway safety, and motor carrier safety and \$52.352 billion for mass transit. [8003, 1102]</p>	<p>No budget title in bill as reported by SEPW.</p>

Summary

- Reauthorization continues to be a top priority of the Administration.
- Significant progress was made before Congress left for its spring recess.

Summary (cont.)

- House passed HR 3 on March 10 by a vote of 471 to 9.
- The Senate EPW Committee reported out their bill on March 16. It is expected to go to the floor where it will be combined with the products of the Banking, Commerce, and Finance Committees toward the end of April.
- AASHTO reports that close observers have suggested that Senator Frist is declining to schedule the measure unless he is assured that funding levels will not be amended to move the bill's total figure above the current \$284 billion backed by the Bush Administration.

Summary (cont.)

- Senate – House Conference is expected to begin in May.
- On the big-picture financial aspects, there is greater acceptance of the levels in the President's FY06 Budget. That is the maximum level that the Highway Trust Fund can support.
- On the issues that surround distribution of funding among the states, there also seems to be greater consensus building.

For More Information

- Website available to the public:

<http://www.dot.gov/reauthorization/index.htm>