

America's Transportation Infrastructure Act of 2019

Congressional Bill Numbers: S. 2302; there are more than 30 different related bills.

Status as of February 2020: During the State of the Union Address on February 4, President Trump urged Congress to pass this bill. On January 8, 2020, the Committee on Environment and Public Works filed a written report, moving the legislation one step closer. There are 33 related bills, and any could become the main bill supported.

Why this matters to you:

- We are currently placing band aids on our transportation system, day by day getting harder to get from point A to point B, which could cause people to stay home and not attend or exhibit at your show.
- Without proper transportation infrastructure, it is extremely challenging to accommodate trade shows to [your state]. To compete with other countries, the U.S. needs significant improvements.
- Improvements in airport infrastructure will help accommodate tremendous growth in passenger volume.

Praise for co-sponsors: Check to see if your legislators are among the co-sponsors we praise for support of S.2302. Better yet, <u>reach out to thank them in writing</u> (and <u>let us know</u> when you do)!

- Sponsor: Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY)
- Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)
- Sen. Benjamin Cardin (D-MD)
- Sen. Thomas Carper (D-DE)

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is also offering additional support.

Our Call to Action: We urge Senators to sign on to S. 2302, America's Transportation Infrastructure Act of 2019, to provide transportation funds to rebuild America's transportation infrastructure. We praise the U.S. Conference of Mayors for making infrastructure investment a top priority. Infrastructure is a major element of the USCM's recently-released, election-year policy agenda – the Mayor's 2020 Vision for America.



Overview: This bill authorizes funds for Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes. According to the World Economic Forum, the U.S. ranks ninth in the world in infrastructure quality. Inadequate supply of infrastructure is one of our top 10 most problematic factors for doing business.

Our message: Due to decades of under investment in transportation infrastructure, mobility to and within the United States has declined. The lack of transportation infrastructure investment is costing the U.S. economy millions in revenue.

- Transportation mobility our airports, highways, passenger rail, and transit systems are in a state of congestion and disrepair.
- It is harder to get from point A to point B, often causing people to stay home, which in turn has a higher economic impact and effects North American jobs.
- The Highway Trust Fund has a shortfall of \$138 billion and will be insolvent by FY22.
- A new survey published by U.S. Travel Association finds that Americans avoided an estimated 47.5 million auto trips due to highway congestion in 2018 costing the economy \$30 billion in travel spending and 248,000 North American jobs.
- U.S. airports have nearly \$128 billion in infrastructure needs through 2021 to accommodate tremendous growth in passenger volume.

Additional resources:

- Track the bill on Congress.gov
- U.S. Travel Association resources on infrastructure