110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1773

To limit the authority of the Secretary of Transportation to grant authority to motor carriers domiciled in Mexico to operate beyond United States municipalities and commercial zones on the United States-Mexico border.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2007

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas (for herself, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Mr. OBERSTAR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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A BILL

To limit the authority of the Secretary of Transportation to grant authority to motor carriers domiciled in Mexico to operate beyond United States municipalities and commercial zones on the United States-Mexico border.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Safe American Roads Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON GRANTING AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation may not grant authority to a motor carrier domiciled in

Mexico to operate beyond United States municipalities and commercial zones on the United States-Mexico border, except under a pilot program that meets the requirements of this Act and that the Secretary conducts.

(b) PILOT PROGRAM.—The pilot program referred to in subsection (a) shall—

(1) comply with the requirements of section 350 of Public Law 107–87;

(2) comply with the requirements of section 31315(c) of title 49, United States Code; and

(3) not permit motor carriers domiciled in Mexico to operate beyond United States municipalities and commercial zones on the United States-Mexico border until motor carriers domiciled in the United States have been allowed to begin comparable operations in Mexico.

(c) PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.—In complying with the requirements of section 31315(c) of title 49, United States Code, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register and provide notice and an opportunity for public comment on—

(1) a detailed description of the pilot program, including specific beginning and end dates for the pilot program;

(2) a process by which the Secretary will revoke Mexico-domiciled motor carrier operating authority at the end of the pilot program;

(3) specific measures required by the Secretary to protect the health and safety of the public, including enforcement measures and penalties for noncompliance; and

(4) specific metrics used to evaluate the program and compare any change in the level of highway and motor carrier safety as a result of the pilot program.

(d) TERMINATION DATE OF PILOT PROGRAM.—The termination date of the pilot program shall not be later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(e) INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Inspector General of the Department of Transportation—

(A) shall monitor and review the pilot program;

(B) not later than 270 days after the date of initiation of the pilot program, shall submit to Congress an interim report on the Inspector General's findings regarding the pilot program; and

(C) not later than 90 days after the termination date of the pilot program, shall submit to Congress a final report on such findings.

(2) SAFETY DETERMINATION.—The interim and final reports submitted to Congress under this subsection shall include the determination of the Inspector General of whether the motor carriers domiciled in Mexico and participating in the pilot program are in compliance with all United States Federal motor carrier safety laws, including the provisions detailed in section 350 of Public Law 107–87.

(f) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 60 days after the termination date of the pilot program, the Secretary shall report to Congress on the results of the pilot program. The report shall include a safety evaluation based on the specific metrics identified by the Secretary under subsection (c).

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