

§ 530. Funding limitations

"(a) CONSISTENCY WITH NATIONAL ARCHITECTURE.—The Secretary shall use funds made available under this subchapter to deploy intelligent transportation system technologies that are consistent with the national architecture.

"(b) COMPETITION WITH PRIVATELY FUNDED PROJECTS.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall not fund any intelligent transportation system operational test or deployment project that competes with a similar privately funded project.

"(c) INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.—Funds made available under this subchapter for operational tests and deployment projects—

"(1) shall be used primarily for the development of intelligent transportation system infrastructure; and

"(2) to the maximum extent practicable, shall not be used for the construction of physical highway and transit infrastructure unless the construction is incidental and critically necessary to the implementation of an intelligent transportation system project.

"(d) PUBLIC RELATIONS AND TRAINING.—For each fiscal year, not more than \$15,000,000 of the funds made available under this subchapter shall be used for intelligent transportation system outreach, public relations, training, mainstreaming, shareholder relations, or related activities.

§ 531. Use of innovative financing

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may use up to 25 percent of the funds made available under this subchapter and section 541 to make available loans, lines of credit, and loan guarantees for projects that are eligible for assistance under this title and that have significant intelligent transportation system elements.

"(b) CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER LAW.—Credit assistance described in subsection (a) shall be made available in a manner consistent with the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 1997.

§ 532. Advisory committees

"(a) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this subchapter, the Secretary shall use 1 or more advisory committees.

"(b) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—Any advisory committee so used shall be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)."

SEC. 2104. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 is amended by striking part B of title VI (23 U.S.C. 307 note; 105 Stat. 2189).

Subtitle C—Funding**SEC. 2201. FUNDING.**

Chapter 5 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 2103), is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SUBCHAPTER III—FUNDING**§ 541. Funding**

"(a) RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY, AND TRAINING.—There shall be available from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out sections 502, 507, 509, and 511 \$98,000,000 for fiscal year 1998, \$101,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, \$104,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, \$107,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, \$110,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, and \$114,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.

"(b) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Funds authorized under this section shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under chapter 1, except that—

"(1) any Federal share of the cost of an activity under this chapter shall be determined in accordance with this chapter; and

"(2) the funds shall remain available for obligation for a period of 4 years after the last day of the fiscal year for which the funds are authorized.

"(c) LIMITATIONS ON OBLIGATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the total amount of all obligations under subsection (a) shall not exceed—

- "(1) \$98,000,000 for fiscal year 1998;
- "(2) \$101,000,000 for fiscal year 1999;
- "(3) \$104,000,000 for fiscal year 2000;
- "(4) \$107,000,000 for fiscal year 2001;
- "(5) \$110,000,000 for fiscal year 2002; and
- "(6) \$114,000,000 for fiscal year 2003."

NOTICE OF HEARING**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Full Energy and Natural Resources Committee to consider the following measures:

S. 1100—To amend the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, the legislation approving such covenant, and for other purposes.

S. 1275—To implement further the Act (Public Law 94-241) approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes.

The hearing will take place on Tuesday, March 31, 1998, at 9:30 A.M. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

For further information, please call Betty Nevitt, Staff Assistant at (202) 224-0765.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION**

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, February 26, 1998, at 9:45 a.m. on tobacco legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Thursday, February 26, 1998 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 26th, 1998 at 11:00 a.m. in room 562 of the Dirksen Senate Building to conduct hearings the President's FY '99 Budget Request for Indian programs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, be authorized to hold an executive business meeting during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 26, 1998, at 10:30 a.m. in room 226 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on Health Care Information Confidentiality during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 26, 1998, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 26, 1998 beginning at 9:30 a.m. until business is completed, to receive testimony on S. 1578, and to hold an oversight hearing on the budget requests and operations of the Government Printing Office, the National Gallery of Art, and the Congressional Research Service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 26, 1998 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on Intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST, BUSINESS RIGHTS, AND COMPETITION

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition, of the Senate Judiciary Committee, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 26, 1998 at 2:00 p.m. to hold a hearing in room 226, Senate Dirksen Building, on: "Oversight of Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice: International and Criminal Enforcement."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Aviation Subcommittee of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, February 26, 1998, at 2:00 p.m. on Air Traffic Control.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on East Asian Affairs of the