

## HR 6052

Saving Energy Through Public Transportation Act of 2008

**Congress:** 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Transportation and Public Works

**Introduced:** May 14, 2008

**Current Status:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban A

**Latest Action:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (Jun 27, 2008)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/6052>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Oberstar, James L. [D-MN-8]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** MN • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (22 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		May 14, 2008
Rep. Mica, John L. [R-FL-7]	R · FL		May 14, 2008
Rep. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI-2]	D · HI		May 19, 2008
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-3]	D · MA		May 19, 2008
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Carnahan, Russ [D-MO-3]	D · MO		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Dingell, John D. [D-MI-15]	D · MI		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-8]	D · NY		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-17]	D · OH		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-13]	D · NJ		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Tauscher, Ellen O. [D-CA-10]	D · CA		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Waxman, Henry A. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Young, Don [R-AK-At Large]	R · AK		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Jackson, Jesse L., Jr. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		Jun 17, 2008
Rep. Kanjorski, Paul E. [D-PA-11]	D · PA		Jun 17, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 27, 2008
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Discharged From	Jun 20, 2008
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Discharged from	May 15, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 S 3380	Related bill	<b>Jul 31, 2008:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
110 HRES 1304	Procedurally related	<b>Jun 26, 2008:</b> Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

Saving Energy Through Public Transportation Act of 2008 - (Sec. 3) Authorizes appropriations for each of FY2008-FY2009 for public transportation formula grants for urbanized areas and for other areas. Authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to make such grants for: (1) operating costs of equipment and facilities being used to provide the public transportation or intercity bus service that the grant recipient is no longer able to pay as a result of reducing fares; (2) operating and capital costs of equipment and facilities being used to provide transportation services or intercity bus service that the recipient incurs as a result of expanding such services; (3) the avoidance of increased fares for public transportation or intercity bus service or decreased services; (4) the costs of acquiring clean fuel or alternative fuel vehicle-related equipment or facilities for the purpose of improving fuel efficiency; and (5) administrative costs in establishing or expanding commuter matching services to provide commuters with information and assistance about alternatives to single occupancy vehicle use. Requires the federal share of the costs for which such grants are made to be 100%.

(Sec. 4) Requires a grant for FY2008-FY2009 that involves acquiring clean fuel or alternative fuel vehicle-related equipment or facilities for the purposes of complying with the Clean Air Act to be for 100% of the net project cost of the equipment or facilities unless the grant recipient requests a lower percentage.

(Sec. 5) Amends the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to require federal employees in urbanized areas of the United States that are served by fixed route public transportation to be offered transit pass transportation fringe benefits. Limits such benefits to the maximum amount that may be excluded from gross income for qualified parking for a month under the Internal Revenue Code. Requires: (1) the Secretary to issue guidance on nationwide implementation of a transportation fringe benefit program; (2) such guidance to contain a uniform administrative policy on enforcement and penalties; and (3) agencies to report to the Secretary on their implementation of the program no later than September 1 after this Act's enactment and every three years thereafter.

(Sec. 6) Requires the Secretary to establish a pilot program to carry out vanpool demonstration projects in not more than three urbanized areas and not more than two other areas. Requires the Secretary to allow the nonfederal share provided by a recipient of assistance for a capital matching project to include the amount expended by private providers of public transportation by vanpool for the acquisition of vans to be used in the recipient's service area. Authorizes the Secretary to approve an application for a vanpool demonstration project for FY2008-FY2009. Requires the Secretary to report to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs on the costs, benefits, and efficiencies of the vanpool demonstration projects.

(Sec. 7) Requires a grant for a capital project during FY2008-FY2009 that involves the acquisition of real property for, or the design, engineering, or construction of, additional parking facilities at an end-of-line fixed guideway station or at a park-and-ride lot that serves a fixed route commuter bus route that is more than 20 miles in length to be for 100% of the net capital cost of the project unless the grant recipient requests a lower percentage.

(Sec. 8) Requires the Secretary of Transportation to carry out a national consumer awareness program to educate the public on the environmental, energy, and economic benefits of public transportation alternatives to the use of single occupancy vehicles. Authorizes appropriations for FY2009.

(Sec. 9) Amends the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to set forth an exception to prohibition against federal procurement of an alternative or synthetic fuel for any mobility-related use unless the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions associated with it are less than or equal to the emissions from equivalent conventional fuel. Allows a federal agency to enter into a contract to purchase a generally available fuel that is not an alternative or synthetic fuel or a fuel

predominantly produced from a nonconventional petroleum source if: (1) the contract does not specifically require the contractor to provide such an alternative, synthetic, or nonconventional fuel; (2) the purpose of the contract is not to obtain such a fuel; and (3) the contract does not provide incentives for a refinery upgrade or expansion to allow a refinery to use or increase its use of fuel from a nonconventional petroleum source.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jun 27, 2008:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** Rule H. Res. 1304 passed House.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** ORDER OF PROCEDURE - Mr. Oberstar asked unanimous consent that, during consideration of H.R. 6052 pursuant to H.Res. 1304, the Chair may reduce to two minutes the minimum time for electronic voting. Agreed to without objection.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 6052 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 1304. (consideration: CR H6122-6143; text of measure as reported in House: CR H6132-6133)
- **Jun 26, 2008:** House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union pursuant to H. Res. 1304 and Rule XVIII.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** The Speaker designated the Honorable Diana DeGette to act as Chairwoman of the Committee.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** GENERAL DEBATE - The Committee of the Whole proceeded with one hour of general debate on H.R. 6052.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H.Res. 1304, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Oberstar amendment.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H.Res. 1304, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the McGovern amendment.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H.Res. 1304, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Mahoney (FL) amendment.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Mahoney(FL) amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced the ayes had prevailed. Mr. Mahoney(FL) demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings until later in the legislative day.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H.Res. 1304, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Reichert amendment.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H.Res. 1304, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Hodes amendment.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** UNFINISHED BUSINESS - The Chair announced that the unfinished business was the question of adoption of amendments which had been debated earlier and on which further proceedings had been postponed.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** The House rose from the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union to report H.R. 6052.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** The House adopted the amendment as agreed to by the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** Mr. Walden (OR) moved to recommit with instructions to Transportation. (consideration: CR H6140-6143; text: CR H6140-6141)
- **Jun 26, 2008:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Walden (OR) motion to recommit with instructions. The instructions in the motion seek to report the same back to the House with amendments to determine the use of funds for meeting fuel-related needs of school bus transportation, and the allocation of funds to school districts.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** The previous question on the motion to recommit with instructions was ordered without objection. (consideration: CR H6142)
- **Jun 26, 2008:** On motion to recommit with instructions Failed by recorded vote: 199 - 221 (Roll no. 466).
- **Jun 26, 2008:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by recorded vote: 322 - 98 (Roll no. 467).
- **Jun 26, 2008:** On passage Passed by recorded vote: 322 - 98 (Roll no. 467).
- **Jun 26, 2008:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jun 26, 2008:** The Clerk was authorized to correct section numbers, punctuation, and cross references, and to make other necessary technical and conforming corrections in the engrossment of H.R. 6052.
- **Jun 25, 2008:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 1304 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 6052 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in

order. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI.

- **Jun 20, 2008:** Reported by the Committee on Transportation. H. Rept. 110-727, Part I.
- **Jun 20, 2008:** Committee on Oversight and Government discharged.
- **Jun 20, 2008:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 462.
- **May 15, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.
- **May 15, 2008:** Subcommittee on Highways and Transit Discharged.
- **May 15, 2008:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **May 15, 2008:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **May 14, 2008:** Introduced in House
- **May 14, 2008:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E923-924)
- **May 14, 2008:** Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.