

HR 5437

Protecting Infrastructure Investments for Rural America Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Sep 13, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials. (Sep 14, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5437>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Finstad, Brad [R-MN-1]

Party: Republican • State: MN • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Golden, Jared F. [D-ME-2]	D · ME		Sep 13, 2023
Rep. Stauber, Pete [R-MN-8]	R · MN		Sep 13, 2023
Rep. Van Orden, Derrick [R-WI-3]	R · WI		Sep 13, 2023
Rep. Mann, Tracey [R-KS-1]	R · KS		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Moolenaar, John R. [R-MI-2]	R · MI		May 10, 2024
Rep. Sorensen, Eric [D-IL-17]	D · IL		May 21, 2024
Rep. Fischbach, Michelle [R-MN-7]	R · MN		Nov 26, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 14, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

## Protecting Infrastructure Investments for Rural America Act

This bill modifies the definition of rural area that is used for the Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program and adds provisions for small communities.

As background, the grant program supports projects that improve and expand the surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas. Eligible applicants for the grant program include states, regional transportation planning organizations, local governments, and tribal governments.

For purposes of the program, the bill defines *rural area* as an area outside an urbanized area that has a population of 20,000 or less. Current law requires a rural area to be outside of an urbanized area with a population of over 200,000.

The bill includes provisions for small communities (i.e., an area outside an urbanized area and that has a population of 5,000 or less). The bill sets the maximum federal cost-share at 90% for project grants carried out in a small community. The Department of Transportation (DOT) must use at least 5% of the program's annual funds to provide grants for projects in small communities. The bill also removes the prohibition against DOT using more than 10% of program funds for grants that are under \$25 million.

Further, program grants may be used for highway, road, bridge, or tunnel projects that would benefit the economic development or quality of life for citizens of the local community.

The bill also specifies that the program's goals include the generation of economic growth and development in rural areas.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Sep 14, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.
- **Sep 14, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.
- **Sep 13, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 13, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.