

7/02/2008 Moran Announces Legislation to Improve Public Transportation

Moran Announces Legislation to Reduce Dependence on Foreign Oil Through Improved Public Transportation

Kansas to Receive Nearly \$8 Million to Expand Transit Services in Urban and Rural Areas

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran this week announced House passage of legislation to reduce dependence on foreign oil by improving public transportation. Public transportation use is up more than 30 percent since 1995.

"As the price of fuel continues to rise, it is important we promote and support public transportation initiatives for both our urban and rural areas," Moran said. "In addition to reducing fuel consumption, public transportation saves money and reduces pollution."

Public transportation saves households an average of \$6,251 every year and saves the U.S. more than 11 million gallons of gasoline each day. According to a recent study, the U.S. could reduce its dependence on imported oil by more than 40 percent if Americans used public transit for approximately 10 percent of their daily travel needs. This is nearly equal to the 550 million barrels of crude oil that the U.S. imports from Saudi Arabia each year.

H.R. 6052, the Saving Energy Through Public Transportation Act of 2008, authorizes money for public transit agencies to reduce fares and expand transit services. These funds are allocated through an urban and rural transit formula. Kansas could receive nearly \$8 million through the formula with \$4.2 million going to urban areas within the state and \$3.7 million going to rural areas. The bill also increases the federal share for clean fuel and alternative fuel transit bus or locomotive-related equipment and facilities from 90 percent to 100 percent.

Moran is a senior member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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