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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for eligibility of transit
ambassadors for certain transit programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. SIMON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for eligi-
bility of transit ambassadors for certain transit pro-
grams.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Transit Ambassador
5 and Public Safety Enhancement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY FOR OPERATING COSTS FOR TRANSIT**2 **AMBASSADORS.**

3 (a) DEFINITION OF TRANSIT AMBASSADOR.—Section

4 5302 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (23) through

6 (25) as paragraphs (24) through (26), respectively;

7 and

8 (2) by inserting after paragraph (22) the fol-

9 lowing:

10 “(23) TRANSIT AMBASSADOR.—The term ‘trans-

11 sit ambassador’ means unarmed personnel respon-

12 sible for performing a variety of duties designed to

13 provide an added sense of security to transit patrons

14 through the presence of such personnel on transit

15 vehicles, stops, and stations and engagement with

16 the public, deterring and reporting disruptive behav-

17 ior within transit systems, including—

18 “(A) fare evasion reporting to relevant su-

19 pervisor or law enforcement officer;

20 “(B) monitoring transit stations and tran-

21 sit vehicles;

22 “(C) providing assistance to transit riders

23 and personnel;

24 “(D) assisting with and reports medical

25 emergencies;

1 “(E) engaging with transit system per-
2 sonnel and the public to establish an official
3 presence and deter disruptive behavior and se-
4 curity risks;

5 “(F) observing and reporting suspicious
6 activity and security threats to transit system
7 personnel and law enforcement;

8 “(G) handling minor, non-criminal con-
9 flicts through alternative channels to preserve
10 law enforcement resources for critical or emer-
11 gency incidents; and

12 “(H) connecting patrons with or per-
13 forming crisis intervention services to deescalate
14 conflicts.”.

15 (b) ELIGIBILITY FOR URBANIZED AREA FORMULA
16 GRANTS.—Section 5307(a)(1) of title 49, United States
17 Code, is amended—

18 (1) in subparagraph (C) by striking “and” at
19 the end;

20 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as sub-
21 paragraph (E); and

22 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(D) notwithstanding subparagraph (E),
25 operating costs for transit ambassadors; and”.

1 (c) ELIGIBILITY FOR FORMULA GRANTS FOR RURAL
2 AREAS.—Section 5311(b)(1) of title 49, United States
3 Code, is amended—
4 (1) in subparagraph (D) by striking “and” at
5 the end;
6 (2) in subparagraph (E) by striking the period
7 and inserting “; and”; and
8 (3) by adding at the end the following:
9 “(F) operating costs for transit ambas-
10 sadors.”.