

Mister Speaker, I rise to bring attention to an important initiative of the Federal Highway Administration, called the Long Term Bridge Performance Program.

This program is proudly being led by Rutgers Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation in New Jersey.

The Long Term Bridge Performance Program is envisioned as a 20-year comprehensive examination of our nation's "workhorse" highway bridges.

The team at Rutgers has been inspecting, evaluating, and monitoring a representative sample of 7 bridges nationwide.

These pilot studies are instrumental in gathering reliable information such as how to maintain safe and satisfactory traffic flow.

The researchers will analyze and apply their data to facilitate improved life-cycle cost and predictive models, better understanding of bridge deterioration, and more effective maintenance and repair plan.

Ultimately this study will promote the safety, mobility, longevity, and reliability of our nation's highways.

As our highway system grows older, it is important to be sure that our bridges are safe and reliable.

I am proud that Rutgers Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation is leading the way in helping the country tackle complicated transportation issues.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Rutgers University.