



**Legislative Bulletin.....May 17, 2012**

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**Democratic Motions to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 4348 – Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012, Part II**

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**Democratic Motions to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 4348 - Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012, Part II (Rahall, D-WV & Barrow, D-GA)**

**Order of Business:** The motions are expected to be offered on May 17, 2012.

**Summary:** The Rahall and Barrow motions would instruct House conferees on the Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012, Part II (H.R. 4348).

**Rahall Motion**

Rep. Rahall motion would move that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4348 be instructed to agree to sections 1528, 20017 (to the extent that such section amends section 5323 of title 49, United States Code, to provide subsection (k) relating to Buy America), 33007, 33008, and 35210 of the Senate amendment.

**Barrow Motion**

The Barrow motion would move that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4348 be instructed to insist on title II of the House bill, regarding approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline.

NOTE: Motions to instruct are never binding upon conferees.

**Additional Background:** The last long-term authorization for highway, transit and safety programs was passed in 2005 and is known as the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The legislation expired Sept. 30, 2009. The federal highway programs and certain transit programs are directly funded through contract authority provided in authorizing legislation unlike other federal programs, to which new federal funding can be provided through appropriations measures without prior authorization.

The current surface transportation authorities expire June 30, 2012 and were last extended in September 2011.

To read the RSC Legislative Bulletin on H.R. 4348 as it came to the House floor, which extends programs under the Highway Trust Fund by three months (through September 30, 2012):

[http://rsc.jordan.house.gov/UploadedFiles/LB\\_041712\\_HR\\_4348.pdf](http://rsc.jordan.house.gov/UploadedFiles/LB_041712_HR_4348.pdf).

**Committee Action:** A motion to instruct does not get referred to a committee.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The motion itself would yield no new costs to taxpayers.

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