

## Safe Routes Infrastructure Act

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2. **Section 1** The federal government shall establish a Safe Routes to  
3. School Infrastructure Program to fund the construction and  
4. improvement of sidewalks, crosswalks, protected bike lanes, and  
5. related pedestrian safety infrastructure within three miles of  
6. public schools across the United States.

7. **Section 2** For the purposes of this bill, "qualifying infrastructure  
8. improvements" shall include the construction of new sidewalks,  
9. the installation or upgrade of crosswalks and traffic signals,  
10. the creation of protected bike lanes, and the installation of  
11. bike parking facilities at or near school buildings.

12. **Section 3** The Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Program shall  
13. be funded at no less than one billion dollars annually,  
14. appropriated by Congress and administered by the Department of  
15. Transportation. States should use this dedicated Federal funding  
16. in conjunction with State funding.

17. **Section 4** Grant funding shall be distributed to state and local  
18. governments on a competitive basis, with priority given to  
19. communities where students face the greatest documented safety  
20. risks when walking or biking to school, including areas with  
21. high rates of pedestrian injury, limited existing  
22. infrastructure, and high concentrations of low-income families.

23. **Section 5** State and local governments receiving grants under this  
24. bill shall submit infrastructure improvement plans to the  
25. Department of Transportation within six months of receiving  
26. funding and shall complete all funded projects within three  
27. years of plan approval.

28. **Section 6** The Department of Transportation shall publish annual

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30. measurable changes in pedestrian and cyclist safety near
31. participating schools, including data on student walking and
32. biking rates before and after improvements.
33. **Section 7** This bill shall take effect one year following its
34. passage. All laws and regulations in conflict with this bill are
35. hereby declared null and void.
36. Introduced for Congressional Debate by NOF

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## National Youth Civic Engagement and Service Act

1. **WHEREAS**, Many young Americans feel disconnected from their
2. government and do not have a strong understanding of how
3. democracy works or how they can participate in it; and
4. **WHEREAS**, Research shows that students who learn about civics in
5. school are more likely to vote, volunteer, and get involved in
6. their communities when they grow up; and
7. **WHEREAS**, The quality of civic education varies widely across the
8. country, meaning that many students – especially those in
9. low-income or rural areas – are missing out on this important
10. preparation for adult life; and
11. **WHEREAS**, Several countries around the world require young people
12. to complete a period of national service, which has been shown
13. to build civic pride, develop job skills, and bring people from
14. different backgrounds together; now, therefore, be it
15. **RESOLVED**, By this Congress that the United States urges the
16. Department of Education to create a National Youth Civic
17. Education Initiative that funds and supports high-quality civics
18. programs in public schools, with a focus on communities where
19. civic participation has historically been lowest; and, be it
20. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, That Congress urges the creation of a National
21. Youth Service Program requiring all American citizens and
22. permanent residents between the ages of sixteen and twenty-six
23. to complete two years of either military or civilian public
24. service – such as environmental work, community health, or
25. education support – with participants receiving a living wage of
26. no less than fifteen dollars per hour, full health benefits, and
27. a twenty thousand dollar education or housing stipend upon
28. completion of their service.
29. Introduced for Congressional Debate by