

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, referred to in subsec. (a)(3), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 105-178, which was approved June 9, 1998.

CHAPTER 5—RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

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503.	Technology deployment program. ¹
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PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior chapter 5, added Pub. L. 90-495, §30, Aug. 23, 1968, 82 Stat. 830, consisting of sections 501 to 512, related to highway relocation assistance, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 91-646, title II, §220(a)(10), Jan. 2, 1971, 84 Stat. 1903. See section 4601 et seq. of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. For Effective Date of Repeal and Savings Provisions, see sections 221 and 220(b) of Pub. L. 91-646, set out as notes under sections 4601 and 4621, respectively, of Title 42.

CHAPTER REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This chapter is referred to in section 103 of this title.

§ 501. Definitions

In this chapter, the following definitions apply:

(1) **FEDERAL LABORATORY.**—The term “Federal laboratory” includes a Government-owned, Government-operated laboratory and a Government-owned, contractor-operated laboratory.

(2) **SAFETY.**—The term “safety” includes highway and traffic safety systems, research, and development relating to vehicle, highway, driver, passenger, bicyclist, and pedestrian characteristics, accident investigations, communications, emergency medical care, and transportation of the injured.

(Added Pub. L. 105-178, title V, §5101(2), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 422.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 501, added Pub. L. 90-495, §30, Aug. 23, 1968, 82 Stat. 830, related to declaration of policy as to highway relocation assistance, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 91-646, title II, §220(a)(10), Jan. 2, 1971, 84 Stat. 1903.

§ 502. Surface transportation research

(a) **GENERAL AUTHORITY.**—

(1) **RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES.**—The Secretary may carry out research, development, and technology transfer activities with respect to—

(A) motor carrier transportation;

(B) all phases of transportation planning and development (including construction, operation, modernization, development, design, maintenance, safety, financing, and traffic conditions); and

(C) the effect of State laws on the activities described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

(2) **TESTS AND DEVELOPMENT.**—The Secretary may test, develop, or assist in testing and developing any material, invention, patented article, or process.

(3) **COOPERATION, GRANTS, AND CONTRACTS.**—The Secretary may carry out this section—

(A) independently;

(B) in cooperation with other Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities and Federal laboratories; or

(C) by making grants to, or entering into contracts, cooperative agreements, and other transactions with, the National Academy of Sciences, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, or any Federal laboratory, State agency, authority, association, institution, for-profit or nonprofit corporation, organization, foreign country, or person.

(4) **TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION.**—The programs and activities carried out under this section shall be consistent with the surface transportation research and technology development strategic plan developed under section 508.

(5) **FUNDS.**—

(A) **SPECIAL ACCOUNT.**—In addition to other funds made available to carry out this section, the Secretary shall use such funds as may be deposited by any cooperating organization or person in a special account of the Treasury established for this purpose.

(B) **USE OF FUNDS.**—The Secretary shall use funds made available to carry out this section to develop, administer, communicate, and promote the use of products of research, development, and technology transfer programs under this section.

(b) **COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—To encourage innovative solutions to surface transportation problems and stimulate the deployment of new technology, the Secretary may carry out, on a cost-shared basis, collaborative research and development with—

(A) non-Federal entities, including State and local governments, foreign governments, colleges and universities, corporations, institutions, partnerships, sole proprietorships, and trade associations that are incorporated or established under the laws of any State; and

(B) Federal laboratories.

(2) **AGREEMENTS.**—In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary may enter into cooperative research and development agreements (as defined in section 12 of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710a)).

(3) **FEDERAL SHARE.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Federal share of the cost of activities carried out under a cooperative research and development agreement entered into under this subsection shall not exceed 50 percent, except that if there is substantial public interest or benefit, the Secretary may approve a greater Federal share.

¹ So in original. Does not conform to section catchline.