

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To amend title 23, United States Code, to encourage and facilitate efforts by States and other transportation rights-of-way managers to adopt integrated vegetation management practices, including enhancing plantings of native forbs and grasses that provide habitats and forage for Monarch butterflies and other native pollinators and honey bees, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—114th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. _____

(title) _____

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mrs. GILLIBRAND

Viz:

1 At the appropriate place, insert the following:

2 **SEC. ____ . ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS TO ENCOURAGE**
3 **POLLINATOR HABITAT AND FORAGE ON**
4 **TRANSPORTATION RIGHTS-OF-WAY.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 319 of title 23, United
6 States Code, is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “(including
8 the enhancement of habitat and forage for polli-
9 nators)” before “adjacent”; and

1 (2) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(c) ENCOURAGEMENT OF POLLINATOR HABITAT
3 AND FORAGE DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION ON
4 TRANSPORTATION RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—In carrying out any
5 program administered by the Secretary, the Secretary
6 shall, in conjunction with willing States, as appropriate—

7 “(1) conduct or encourage integrated vegetation
8 management practices on roadsides and other trans-
9 portation rights-of-way, including reduced mowing;

10 “(2) enhance the development of habitat and
11 forage for Monarch butterflies, other native polli-
12 nators, and honey bees through plantings of native
13 forbs and grasses, including noninvasive, native
14 milkweed species that can serve as migratory way
15 stations for butterflies and facilitate migrations of
16 other pollinators;

17 “(3) encourage leveraging through partnerships
18 and coordination with stakeholders in support of pol-
19 linators and plantings of native forbs and grasses,
20 such as environmental groups, research institutions,
21 other agencies, businesses, and community organiza-
22 tions;

23 “(4) conduct or facilitate research and dem-
24 onstration projects on the economic and environ-
25 mental benefits and best practices for integrated

1 vegetation management, reduced mowing, and plant-
2 ings of native forbs and grasses for pollinator habi-
3 tat, forage, and migratory way stations for Monarch
4 butterflies and other migrating pollinators; and

5 “(5) solicit participation in the activities de-
6 scribed in paragraphs (1) through (4) by—

7 “(A) representatives of the industries of
8 transportation, landscape management, polli-
9 nator health, agriculture and horticulture; and

10 “(B) other affected communities.”.

11 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
12 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transpor-
13 tation shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

14 (1) an analysis of current programs and au-
15 thorities available to carry out section 319(c) of title
16 23, United States Code;

17 (2) a summary of programs and authorities
18 being used to implement that section;

19 (3) an assessment of actions being taken by
20 willing State transportation departments and other
21 managers of transportation rights-of-way to imple-
22 ment integrated vegetation management practices,
23 reduce mowing, and enhance habitat and forage for
24 Monarch butterflies, other native pollinators, and
25 honey bees through plantings of native forbs and

1 grasses and migratory way stations for Monarch
2 butterflies and other migrating pollinators;

3 (4) a summary of Department of Transpor-
4 tation funds expended on the program; and

5 (5) any recommendations for further action.

6 (c) PROVISION OF HABITAT, FORAGE, AND MIGRA-
7 TORY WAY STATIONS FOR MONARCH BUTTERFLIES,
8 OTHER NATIVE POLLINATORS, AND HONEY BEES.—Sec-
9 tion 329(a)(1) of title 23, United States Code, is amended
10 by inserting “provision of habitat, forage, and migratory
11 way stations for Monarch butterflies, other native polli-
12 nators, and honey bees,” before “and aesthetic enhance-
13 ment”.