



Association for Commuter Transportation Statement of Support for the Bicycle Commuter Act of 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Amanda Brangwynne
abrangwynne@actweb.org

The Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) stands in support with Representatives Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Vern Buchanan (R-FL), and Ayanna Pressley (D-MA) as they introduce the *Bicycle Commuter Act of 2019*.

In the United States, more than 75% of commuters drive to work alone, causing congestion in urban areas, negatively impacting economic activity and contributing a significant percentage of climate-worsening carbon emissions. This bill offers additional incentives to commuters to get out of their car and choose a healthier, cleaner option for the daily commute.

The new tax bill aims to bring back the bicycle commuter benefit, a \$20 per month reimbursement repealed by the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017*, but now as a pre-tax commuter benefit that can be used in conjunction with the parking and transit benefits offered by employers. The new bill will make electric bikes and bikeshares eligible for the benefit and allowing compatibility between the parking, biking, and transit benefits will give commuters more flexibility for the first/last-mile legs of the commute.

“We are excited to see a bipartisan effort to bring back and improve the bicycle commuter benefit,” stated David Straus, ACT Executive Director. “Our 1,000 plus Transportation Demand Management (TDM) professionals across the United States, look forward to adding this powerful incentive to their menu of strategies to help people find the best option for their commute to work.”

ACT applauds the leadership of the bill’s sponsors and encourages Congress to pass this important piece of legislation, which will allow employees to receive up to 20% of the value of the parking benefit for bicycle commuting expenses. If passed, the proposed effective date would be for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018.

ABOUT ACT

The Association for Commuter Transportation is the premier organization and leading advocate for commuter transportation and transportation demand management (TDM) professionals. ACT strives to create an efficient multimodal transportation system by empowering the people, places, and organizations working to advance TDM in order to improve the quality of life of commuters, enhance the livability of communities, and stimulate economic activity.

###