



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

BUD SHUSTER
5TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

January 17, 2001

Honorable Rodney E. Slater, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Slater,

I write to clarify the legislative intent of Sec 378 authored by Chairman Bud Shuster in the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (P.L. 106-346). Section 378 states "*Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in addition to amounts made available from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the most transit account): \$50,000,000 for the intelligent transportation infrastructure program as authorized by section 5117(b)(3) of P.L. 105-178.*" This provision was included at the request of Congressman Bud Shuster, Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

The intent of this language was to insure that these funds were used to carry on the project which has already received initial funding by the DOT, expressly the project specified under section 5117(b)(3) and which had already been funded by DOT in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. In no way was this intended that DOT conduct a competition for the awarding of funds.

It was the express belief of Chairman Shuster that this language would direct the \$50 million appropriated for this section in 5117(b)(3) be used to continue the project as previously awarded by DOT. This is the only way we can promote national interoperability in this important infrastructure deployment.

Therefore, it is imperative that the Department cease any procurement that violates Congressional intent, and furthermore communicate to this office that it will clarify its position with regard to these funds.

Sincerely,


Darrell Wilson
Chief of Staff