

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEM CERTIFICATION
PURSUANT TO RULE XLIV
OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Name of the Senator requesting the congressionally directed spending item:

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse

For the congressionally directed spending item, the name and location of the intended recipient or, if there is no specifically intended recipient, the intended location of the activity:

The University of Rhode Island Transportation Center (URITC), Kingston, RI.

The purpose of the congressionally directed spending item:

The URITC was established in 1999 under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century

(TEA-21). The URITC conducts multidisciplinary education, research, technology transfer, and outreach for surface transportation systems and advanced transportation infrastructure.

TEA-21 required University Transport Centers to match federal funding. URITC, on average, received \$1.6 million, which it matched dollar for dollar. SAFETEA reauthorized the University Transport Centers Program. In SAFETEA, URITC was designated a Tier II Center and currently receives \$500,000 under the program. SAFETEA requires, however, URITC to maintain its previous

effort, plus match the current level of federal funds dollar for dollar, requiring URITC to match

funds it no longer receives. We request a technical correction to SAFETEA that would require

Tier II Centers to match only the amount of the award actually provided under SAFETEA.

Pursuant to Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I certify that neither my immediate family nor I has a pecuniary interest in the congressionally directed spending item requested.


(Signature of Senator)

Submit an original of this certification to Chairman Barbara Boxer, Committee on Environment and Public Works, 410 Dirksen Senate Office Building, and Ranking Member James M. Inhofe, Committee on Environment and Public Works, 456 Dirksen Senate Office Building.

EPW-07-1194