To authorize appropriations for highway-rail grade crossing improvement projects.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MARKEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on ________________________

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for highway-rail grade crossing improvement projects.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Warren Cowles Grade Crossing Safety Act”.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE CROSSING IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

Section 22907 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—
(1) in subsection (c)(5), by inserting ‘‘, including such a project for commuter rail and operators in high-ridership corridors’’ before the period at the end; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(m) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 22905(f), there are authorized to be appropriated for eligible projects described in subsection (c)(5) for commuter rail and operators in high-ridership corridors—

‘‘(A) for fiscal year 2021, $250,000,000; and

‘‘(B) for fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount described in paragraph (2).

‘‘(2) AMOUNT DESCRIBED.—The amount described in this paragraph for a fiscal year is $250,000,000, adjusted to reflect the percentage (if any) of the increase in the average of the Consumer Price Index for the preceding 12-month period compared to the Consumer Price Index for fiscal year 2020.

‘‘(3) CONSUMER PRICE INDEX DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘Consumer Price Index’
means the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor.”.