

Wayne Allard

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SENATOR ALLARD REINTRODUCES HEARTLAND EXPRESS BILL

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) has reintroduced the Heartland Express bill. The bill would designate Colorado State Highway 71 from the Nebraska state line to Limon and I-76 from Denver to Brush as the Colorado portion of the the "Heartland Express" high priority corridor. The Heartland Express trade route would be designated a high priority corridor, making it eligible for additional federal highway funding under the Department of Transportation's Borders and Corridors program.

"The Heartland Express trade route is of great importance to Eastern Colorado," Senator Allard said. "The route will facilitate additional trade and tourism, bringing additional revenue and jobs to the Eastern plains."

The Heartland Express bill was originally introduced by Senator Allard in 2002, and was approved by the U.S. Senate. The legislation was to be included in the overall transportation bill that, ultimately, was never agreed upon by both houses of Congress.

"I'm confident that we can get this bill through the entire legislative process this time, so that additional federal highway funding can be brought to Eastern Colorado," the Senator said.

The Heartland Express high priority corridor would join the Ports to Plains high priority corridor, which runs between Texas and Denver along Highway 287 and Interstate 70, as the second route in Colorado to qualify for additional highway funding to facilitate national and international trade.

Joining Senator Allard in co-sponsoring the legislation are Senator Ben Nelson (D-Nebraska), Senator John Thune (R-South Dakota), Senator Ken Salazar (D-Colorado) and Senator Chuck Hagel (R-Nebraska).