



THE ROAD AHEAD PARTNERSHIP

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Route 66 Centennial Legislation Begins Journey through Senate on Road to 2026

On April 3, 2019, Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) and Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) introduced legislation in the U.S. Senate to establish the Route 66 Centennial Commission in celebration of its 100th anniversary.

In addition to being the first all-paved highway in the United States highway system, connecting the Midwest to California, Route 66 was the road to opportunity for hundreds of thousands of people who moved west during the Great Depression. The road served the country during WWII and continued to carry families into the bright era of the 50s and 60s as the tourist industry grew along the Mother Road. Though Route 66 was decommissioned in 1985, the road continues to be a popular tourist destination for both domestic and international travelers.

The Senate Bill, S1014, has been referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. Members of this committee include Cory Booker, Kirsten Billibrand and Bernie Sanders. You can read the legislation and follow its progress online at: www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/116/s1014.

“Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Route 66 offers opportunities to not only plan a fun birthday party for the Mother Road, but also to work on the preservation, promotion, education, and economic development of the road.” said Bill Thomas, Chair of the Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership.

Established in 2015, with the support of the National Park Service and the World Monuments' Fund, The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership's mission is to revitalize and sustain Route 66 as a national and international icon through partnerships focused on promotion, preservation, research and education, and economic development.

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