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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Transportation infrastructure is critical to the economy and future growth of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Local roads comprise over 88% of the State's public road mileage, carrying around 40% of statewide traffic; and

WHEREAS, Transportation projects have traditionally been paid for with user fees, including gas taxes and vehicle registration charges; and

WHEREAS, Among the various grants awarded to local governments is the Needy Township program; and

WHEREAS, The Needy Township program once provided \$10 million annually to townships and road districts that levy the maximum tax rate allowed but still lack adequate revenue to meet a minimum per-mile funding level; the Illinois Department of Transportation determines eligible townships and assistance based on a district's equalized assessed value of all properties, annual average MFT distribution per mile, and average maintenance; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Transportation reduced

1 the Needy Township allocation by almost half after the FY18
2 budget was enacted; and

3 WHEREAS, Other grants to local governments were reduced by
4 almost \$50 million statewide; and

5 WHEREAS, These reductions follow a decades long trend by
6 the State of reducing funding to local road districts; and

7 WHEREAS, The deterioration of local roads is contributing
8 to the economic problems of Illinois; and

9 WHEREAS, Local roads generated tax revenue and economic
10 growth for the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
12 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
13 we urge the Illinois Department of Transportation to consider
14 that a higher percentage of all new revenues and new
15 transportation investments be distributed for local roads; and
16 be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 delivered to the Secretary of Transportation and the Governor.