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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 54

2 (As Amended by Senate Amendment Nos. 1 & 3)

3 WHEREAS, For southwest Illinois to remain a vibrant and  
4 desired place to live and do business, the region's roadways  
5 need to evolve to meet the needs of the area; and

6 WHEREAS, Connecting the major population centers of  
7 Southern Illinois will allow people, goods, and agriculture  
8 commodities to be quickly transported; and

9 WHEREAS, Four counties in southwestern Illinois (Jackson,  
10 Monroe, Perry, and Randolph), numerous municipalities in the  
11 area, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, local  
12 businesses, labor unions, and agricultural organizations have  
13 all voiced support for a four-lane, divided highway from  
14 Waterloo to Murphysboro; and

15 WHEREAS, The proposed highway has come to be known as the  
16 Southwest Illinois Connector; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL  
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
19 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Southwest Illinois Connector Task  
20 Force is created in order to study the following:

21 (1) the cost, feasibility, and environmental impact of

1 the connector;

2 (2) the short- and long-term economic impact to the  
3 region; and

4 (3) all options for funding the connector, both public  
5 and private; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Southwest Illinois Connector Task Force  
7 shall consist of the following members:

8 (1) the President of the Senate, or his designee;

9 (2) the Speaker of the House, or his designee;

10 (3) the Minority Leader of the Senate, or his designee;

11 (4) the Minority Leader of the House of  
12 Representatives, or his designee;

13 (5) the Secretary of Transportation, or his or her  
14 designee;

15 (6) a representative of Randolph County appointed by  
16 the Chairman of the Randolph County Board of Commissioners;

17 (7) a representative of Perry County appointed by the  
18 Chairman of the Perry County Board of Commissioners;

19 (8) a representative of Jackson County appointed by the  
20 Chairman of the Jackson County Board;

21 (9) a representative of Monroe County appointed by the  
22 Chairman of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners;

23 (10) a representative of the Illinois Farm Bureau  
24 appointed by its President;

25 (11) a representative of Southern Illinois University

1 Carbondale appointed by its Chancellor;

2 (12) the president of a statewide labor federation  
3 representing more than one international union, or his or  
4 her designee;

5 (13) a representative of the Kaskaskia Regional Port  
6 District appointed by its Chairman;

7 (14) a representative of the Illinois Municipal League  
8 appointed by its President; and

9 (15) a representative of the Illinois Realtors  
10 Association appointed by its President; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Task Force members shall select a  
12 Chairperson from among themselves; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That members of the Southwest Illinois Connector  
14 Task Force shall serve with no compensation; the Illinois  
15 Department of Transportation shall make all Department  
16 information available to the Task Force and provide expertise  
17 as needed and available; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Southwest Illinois Connector Task Force  
19 shall meet a minimum of four times and make recommendations to  
20 the General Assembly and the Illinois Department of  
21 Transportation before December 31, 2018.