



HR0434

LRB102 19715 ECR 28489 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)  
3           stated in its 2021 report card that the United States received  
4           a grade of C- regarding the current state of infrastructure  
5           and that more than six trillion dollars would be needed to  
6           restore the nation's infrastructure to a state of good repair;  
7           an amount totaling over two and a half trillion dollars is  
8           currently not funded, and the remainder is inadequately  
9           funded; new, 21st century projects are unfunded; and

10           WHEREAS, Illinois received a grade of C- from the ASCE in  
11           2018; Illinois roadways were ranked third worst nationally for  
12           travel delay, excess fuel consumed, truck congestion cost, and  
13           total congestion cost; this cost Illinois' motorists \$566 per  
14           year for a total of \$4.8 billion; transit systems in Illinois  
15           are in need of funding; and

16           WHEREAS, Current multi-year capital needs for transit in  
17           the Chicagoland area require an annual funding level of  
18           between \$2 and \$3 billion to reach a state of good repair, and  
19           funding has not been identified; Chicago has 400,000 lead  
20           service lines and has the worst documented lead line problem  
21           in the nation; the cost of replacement will be at least \$11  
22           billion; and

1           WHEREAS, Illinois is home to one of the most important  
2 rail hubs in the country, and rail revenue is integral to the  
3 State's economy; over \$17.5 billion of substantial investments  
4 to the railroad infrastructure in Illinois are needed to  
5 accommodate just the expected 30 percent future growth in  
6 freight rail traffic; Chicago should also be a hub for  
7 increased passenger rail and a high speed rail for the entire  
8 Midwest; and

9           WHEREAS, A new National Infrastructure Bank (NIB) could  
10 directly help finance all of these projects; U.S. H.R. 3339,  
11 "The National Infrastructure Bank Act," which is sponsored by  
12 U.S. Representative Danny Davis of Illinois and supported by  
13 U.S. Representative Bobby Rush of Illinois, has been  
14 introduced to Congress; this resolution would create a \$5  
15 trillion bank that could help finance all infrastructure  
16 projects and provide higher paying infrastructure and related  
17 employment to those who lost their jobs during the pandemic;  
18 and

19           WHEREAS, The NIB is modeled on previous successful  
20 institutions, which built much of the nation's infrastructure  
21 including the infrastructure of Illinois; under Presidents  
22 George Washington, James Madison, Abraham Lincoln, and  
23 Franklin D. Roosevelt, similar institutions financed the  
24 roads, bridges, dams, railroads, canals, and other projects

1 that made us the envy of the world; the last NIB-like  
2 institution helped bring us out of the Great Depression and  
3 win World War Two; and

4 WHEREAS, The NIB will be capitalized by existing Treasury  
5 debt and will require no new federal spending and no new taxes;  
6 it will be authorized to spend \$5 trillion in urgently needed  
7 infrastructure projects and will create over twenty million  
8 new jobs, pay Davis-Bacon wages, and ensure Buy American  
9 policies; it will direct spending into disadvantaged business  
10 enterprises and ensure substantial minority hiring; experts  
11 state that the NIB will increase Gross Domestic Product to the  
12 five per cent annual level, as did all previous institutions;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The NIB is supported by many organizations; 21  
15 state legislatures have introduced or passed resolutions, and  
16 dozens of city and county councils have done the same,  
17 including the Chicago City Council; other endorsements include  
18 The National Congress of Black Women, the National Association  
19 of Counties, the Public Banking Institute, the National  
20 Federation of Federal Employees, the American Sustainable  
21 Business Council, the National Association of Minority  
22 Contractors, the National Latino Farmers and Ranchers, and  
23 many other labor and community organizations; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
2 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
3 we urge the Congress of the United States to pass U.S. House  
4 Resolution 3339 to create a National Infrastructure Bank to  
5 finance urgently needed infrastructure projects; and be it  
6 further

7           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
8 delivered to every member of the Illinois Congressional  
9 Delegation, Governor JB Pritzker, and President Joe Biden.