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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has transformed intercity passenger rail policy by articulating a vision for high-speed rail in the nation and putting real resources behind his vision; and

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WHEREAS, The Federal Railroad Administration has designated corridors throughout the nation, including St. Louis-Chicago, St. Paul-Chicago, Detroit-Chicago, and Cleveland-Chicago as high-speed rail corridors eligible for federal funding; and

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WHEREAS, Two of the largest cities in the nation, Chicago and New York City, are not currently contemplated to be linked together in any high-speed rail corridor designations; and

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WHEREAS, A Chicago-Cleveland and a Buffalo-New York City corridor have both been designated as high-speed rail corridors; and

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WHEREAS, Cleveland and Buffalo are 190 miles apart; and

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WHEREAS, Establishing a Cleveland-Buffalo corridor would connect the two great cities of Chicago and New York City, strengthening both high-speed rail networks immeasurably by

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1 granting access to the Midwest and East corridors to both  
2 population centers; therefore, be it

3       RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL  
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that in the spirit of  
5 regional cooperation, we urge President Barack Obama, the  
6 Secretary of United States Department of Transportation, Ray  
7 LaHood, and the Administrator of the Federal Railroad  
8 Administration, Joseph Szabo, to designate the  
9 Cleveland-Buffalo corridor a high-speed rail corridor eligible  
10 for federal funding in order to create a high-speed rail  
11 corridor between Chicago and New York City; and be it further

12       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 delivered to President Obama, the Illinois congressional  
14 delegation, the Secretary of the United States Department of  
15 Transportation, and the Administrator of the Federal Railroad  
16 Administration.