



HJ0064

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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, There is a trend in rural areas both inside and  
3 outside of this State for local governments, including counties  
4 and townships, to re-designate local rural highways from  
5 paved-highway to unpaved status; and

6 WHEREAS, It is in the public interest to study this trend,  
7 identify the advantages and disadvantages to transitioning a  
8 road from pavement to gravel, and determine if changes to the  
9 Motor Fuel Tax Fund allocation formula are warranted;  
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
12 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
13 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created the Paved Rural  
14 Highways Study Committee, composed of 9 members, who shall be  
15 appointed no later than August 31, 2012 in accordance with the  
16 following requirements:

17 (i) the President of the Senate, the Minority Leader of  
18 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
19 and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives  
20 shall each appoint one member, who must be an owner or  
21 operator of a farm or place of agricultural business and  
22 have his or her principal place of residence outside the  
23 Chicago-Naperville-Joliet Metropolitan Statistical Area,

1 as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;

2 (ii) the President of the Senate, the Minority Leader  
3 of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
4 and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives  
5 shall each appoint one member, who must be an elected  
6 member of a county board, county commission, or township  
7 board of trustees and have his or her principal place of  
8 residence outside the Chicago-Naperville-Joliet  
9 Metropolitan Statistical Area, as defined by the U.S.  
10 Census Bureau; and

11 (iii) The Director of the Illinois Department of  
12 Transportation shall appoint the 9th member, who shall be  
13 the chairperson of the committee; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall be staffed by the staff  
15 of the Department of Transportation and shall receive no pay  
16 except to reimburse the expenses of the members of the  
17 Committee; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall investigate the trend in  
19 rural areas both inside and outside Illinois for local  
20 governments, including counties and townships, to re-designate  
21 local rural highways including but not limited to highways  
22 commonly designated as "farm-to-market roads", from  
23 paved-highway to unpaved status; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That the Committee shall meet at the call of the  
2 chair and prepare a report containing:

3           (a) information on how much money per mile, in annual  
4 upkeep costs, is saved by taxpayers through transitioning a  
5 two-lane highway from pavement to gravel;

6           (b) the disadvantages to local Illinois citizens of  
7 transitioning a road from pavement to gravel;

8           (c) information on the most recent annual totals  
9 representing motor fuel taxes and State sales taxes on  
10 motor fuel paid for by Illinois purchasers at points of  
11 sale located outside the Chicago-Naperville-Joliet  
12 Metropolitan Statistical Area; and

13           (d) a recommendation on what changes, if any, to the  
14 Motor Fuel Tax Fund allocation formula would suffice to  
15 prevent rural roads from being re-designated from pavement  
16 to gravel in future years; and be it further

17           RESOLVED, That the Committee shall submit its report to the  
18 Governor, the President of the Senate, the Minority Leader of  
19 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and  
20 the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives by December  
21 31, 2012.