



HJ0072

LRB098 17487 MST 52594 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois General Assembly are
3 continuously looking for ways to improve the quality of mass
4 transit and help its citizens move about the State more
5 efficiently; and

6 WHEREAS, Establishing an East-West passenger rail corridor
7 in the State of Illinois would improve access to nearly a dozen
8 universities and community colleges and nearly a half-dozen
9 private colleges; and

10 WHEREAS, A passenger rail connection between the Quad
11 Cities campus of Western Illinois University and the Macomb
12 campus would greatly improve the efficiency of intercampus
13 service by staff and access by students; and

14 WHEREAS, An East-West passenger rail corridor would
15 provide citizens across Illinois better, quicker, and easier
16 access to the high-speed railroad corridor from Chicago to St.
17 Louis; and

18 WHEREAS, An East-West passenger rail corridor from the
19 Moline/Rock Island area to Danville, via Galesburg, Peoria,
20 Bloomington-Normal, and Champaign-Urbana, could be constructed
21 using existing railroad lines; and

1 WHEREAS, An East-West passenger rail corridor would
2 contribute to further economic development including increased
3 mobility for workers across the State; and

4 WHEREAS, An East-West passenger rail corridor would help
5 reduce highway congestion, improve quality of life, and reduce
6 air pollution; and

7 WHEREAS, An East-West passenger rail corridor is in the
8 best interest of national security, should large numbers of
9 people need to be moved quickly due to a natural disaster or an
10 act of aggression; rail service would be the most reliable,
11 available, and efficient means of transport; and

12 WHEREAS, An East-West passenger rail corridor from
13 Moline/Rock Island to Danville would provide a connection
14 between all 3 existing North-South railroad corridors;
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
17 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
18 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we support the development of an
19 East-West passenger rail corridor in the State; and be it
20 further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the Secretary of the Illinois Department of
3 Transportation, Ann L. Schneider.