

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 69

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE QUADE.

5300H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

2 **WHEREAS**, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) stated in its 2021
3 report card that the United States received a grade of C- regarding the current state of
4 infrastructure and that more than six trillion dollars would be needed to restore the nation's
5 infrastructure to a state of good repair; and

6 **WHEREAS**, of that six trillion dollars of funding needed for infrastructure, over two
7 and a half trillion dollars is currently not funded, the remainder is inadequately funded, and all
8 new twenty-first-century projects are unfunded; and

9
10 **WHEREAS**, the ASCE gave the state of Missouri a grade of C- in its 2018 report
11 card. In the state, dams were rated D-; energy, D+; inland waterways, D; levees, D+; and
12 roads, D+. Twenty-three percent of Missouri roads are in poor condition and have a cost per
13 motorist of seven hundred dollars annually. Twelve percent of Missouri bridges are
14 structurally deficient, and sixty-eight percent of Missouri dams are graded as having high or
15 significant hazard potential; and

16
17 **WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County need more than thirty-five
18 thousand affordable housing units to provide for minority and other households and for low-
19 income families and renters, according to the St. Louis Affordable Housing Report; and

20
21 **WHEREAS**, twenty percent of the Missouri population does not have access to high-
22 speed internet, according to the Federal Communications Commission, and the Missouri
23 department of elementary and secondary education reports one in five students does not have
24 access to the internet at home; and

25
26 **WHEREAS**, inland waterways on the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers face funding
27 shortfalls to repair and replace locks and dams. Five locks on the Mississippi River are fifty

28 percent below the standard size and inhibit barge traffic on the river. Persistent flooding in the
29 Missouri River Valley has caused repeated economic and personal hardship, and a multi-state
30 Missouri River Authority, modeled on the Tennessee Valley Authority, could address this
31 problem; and

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33 **WHEREAS**, H.R. 3339 was introduced in the United States House of Representatives
34 and would create a five-trillion-dollar National Infrastructure Bank (NIB); and

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36 **WHEREAS**, the NIB is modeled on previous national banks, which helped build
37 much of the country's infrastructure under Presidents George Washington, James Madison,
38 Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt. The last national bank helped bring the
39 country out of the Depression and win World War II; and

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41 **WHEREAS**, the new National Infrastructure Bank will function like its predecessors.
42 It will be capitalized by repurposing existing United States Treasury debt and will require no
43 new federal appropriations and no new federal taxes. It will invest five trillion dollars only
44 into infrastructure and will create twenty-five million new high-paying jobs. Projects funded
45 by the NIB will pay Davis-Bacon wages and include Buy American provisions. The NIB will
46 support disadvantaged business enterprises and will mandate extensive minority hiring. The
47 NIB will grow the economy by five percent per year, as did its predecessors; and

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49 **WHEREAS**, many organizations are in support of the legislation. Twenty-two state
50 legislatures have filed resolutions of support, as did numerous county and city councils. Such
51 resolutions of support have been passed by entities including the Nevada Legislature, Maine
52 Legislature, Rhode Island Senate, New Jersey Senate, and Illinois House. Other
53 endorsements have been passed by cities such as Chicago, Philadelphia, Cleveland, and
54 Pittsburgh and by county associations such as the Florida Association of Counties, New York
55 State Association of Counties, and County Council Association of Pennsylvania. Other
56 groups that support H.R. 3339 include the National Congress of Black Women, the National
57 Association of Counties (NACO), the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL),
58 the National Latino Farmers and Ranchers, the American Sustainable Business Council, the
59 National Association of Minority Contractors, the United Association of Plumbers and
60 Steamfitters International Union, the United States High Speed Rail Association, the National
61 Federation of Federal Employees, and many others:

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63 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
64 Representatives of the One Hundred First General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the

65 Senate concurring therein, hereby urge the United States Congress to pass H.R. 3339 to create
66 a National Infrastructure Bank that can finance urgently needed infrastructure projects; and
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68 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
69 be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for each member of the
70 Missouri Congressional delegation, the President of the United States, and the Governor of
71 Missouri.

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