

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009

SCR 4

4
5 By: Senators Teague, Horn, Wilkinson
6 By: Representatives Cole, Glidewell, Pennartz, Breedlove, Abernathy, Rice, R. Green, Harrelson, L.
7 Cowling, Wells, S. Malone, Pyle

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10 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

11 RECOMMENDING THAT THE CONGRESS, THE ARKANSAS
12 CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION, THE PRESIDENT OF THE
13 UNITED STATES, THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
14 TRANSPORTATION, AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL
15 HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION ENSURE THAT A SIGNIFICANT
16 PORTION OF FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION
17 INFRASTRUCTURE BE COMMITTED TO COMPLETE
18 CONSTRUCTION OF I-49 BETWEEN TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS,
19 AND FT. SMITH, ARKANSAS.

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21 **Subtitle**

22 RECOMMENDING THAT A SIGNIFICANT PORTION
23 OF FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION
24 INFRASTRUCTURE BE COMMITTED TO COMPLETE
25 CONSTRUCTION OF I-49 BETWEEN TEXARKANA,
26 ARKANSAS, AND FT. SMITH, ARKANSAS.

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29 WHEREAS, United States Highway 71, which is commonly referred to as
30 Interstate 49 (I-49), is the north-south corridor from Kansas City, Missouri,
31 to Shreveport, Louisiana; and

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33 WHEREAS, the United States Congress designated I-49 as a High Priority
34 Corridor 1 under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991
35 (ISTEA); and



1 WHEREAS, the I-49 corridor from Texarkana to Fort Smith will provide a
2 much-needed north-to-south route on the west side of the state that will
3 provide the necessary infrastructure to support economic development
4 immediately and for future generations;

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6 WHEREAS, the moneys spent on the I-49 corridor include numerous
7 environmental studies and location studies that have been completed in
8 segments due to the length and nature of the project; and

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10 WHEREAS, to date, approximately nine hundred seventy million dollars
11 (\$970,000,000) in federal and state moneys have been spent on major
12 improvements to the I-49 corridor; and

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14 WHEREAS, the present cost of completing I-49 is estimated to be three
15 billion five hundred million dollars (\$3,500,000,000); and

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17 WHEREAS, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation
18 Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) expires on September 30, 2009,

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20 NOW THEREFORE,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
22 STATE OF ARKANSAS, AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

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24 That it recommends to the Congress of the United States, the Arkansas
25 Congressional Delegation, the President of the United States, the Secretary
26 of the Department of Transportation, and the Director of the Federal Highway
27 Administration that a significant portion of funding for transportation
28 infrastructure be committed to complete construction of I-49 between
29 Texarkana, Arkansas, and Ft. Smith, Arkansas.

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this resolution, the Chief
32 Clerk of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the presiding
33 officers of the United States Senate and the United States House of
34 Representatives; each member of the Arkansas Congressional Delegation; the
35 President of the United States; the Secretary of the Department of
36 Transportation; and the Director of the Federal Highway Administration.