

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

*As Engrossed: H2/26/09*

HCR 1009

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By: Representatives G. Smith, Lowery, Hardy, *Abernathy, Maxwell, Maloch, Saunders, Rainey, Flowers, Reep, D. Creekmore, M. Burris, Sample, Harrelson, Moore, Cheatham, T. Bradford, Powers, Shelby, J. Roebuck, Pierce, L. Cowling, Stewart, Word, Cole*  
By: Senators G. Jeffress, *P. Malone, J. Jeffress, T. Smith, H. Wilkins, Horn, Faris, J. Taylor, Teague*

### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDING THAT THE CONGRESS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION ENSURE THAT A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE BE COMMITTED TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF INTERSTATE 69 (I-69) IN ARKANSAS.

#### Subtitle

RECOMMENDING THAT A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE BE COMMITTED TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF I-69 IN ARKANSAS.

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WHEREAS, the 1991 Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) identified several high priority corridors of national significance, including Interstate 69 (I-69) which is part of the congressionally designated High Priority Corridors 18 and 20; and

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WHEREAS, the total length of I-69, including all proposed connectors and the existing route in Indiana and Michigan, is now approximately two thousand seven hundred thirty (2,730) miles in length with an estimated cost between twenty billion dollars (\$20,000,000,000) and twenty-two billion dollars (\$22,000,000,000); and



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2 WHEREAS, to make the I-69 project more manageable, the states and the  
3 Federal Highway Administration have divided Corridors 18 and 20 into thirty-  
4 two (32) "Sections of Independent Utility", or "SIUs", that will function  
5 independently even if the entire project is not completed; and

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7 WHEREAS, the total estimated cost to construct approximately one  
8 hundred eighty-five (185) miles of I-69 in Arkansas is two billion four  
9 hundred million dollars (\$2,400,000,000); and

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11 WHEREAS, the mileage for I-69 in Arkansas includes the route from Pine  
12 Bluff to the Highway 278 connector, which is approximately thirty-nine (39)  
13 miles in length and Arkansas's portion of the Great River Bridge, which is  
14 the I-69 Mississippi River crossing and is approximately sixteen (16) miles  
15 in length; and

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17 WHEREAS, the Great River Bridge near Arkansas City has been designed,  
18 the State Highway Commission has authorized the acquisition of the right-of-  
19 way, and if additional federal funding is made available, construction could  
20 begin immediately after the required United States Coast Guard permits are  
21 obtained for this project; and

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23 WHEREAS, early studies have shown that for every dollar invested in I-  
24 69, the economic benefits will be one dollar and fifty-seven cents (\$1.57),  
25 which is a fifty-seven percent (57%) return on the investment; and

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

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30 NOW THEREFORE,

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

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34 THAT the General Assembly recommends to the Congress of the United  
35 States, the Arkansas Congressional Delegation, the President of the United  
36 States, the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, and the Director

1 of the Federal Highway Administration that a significant portion of funding  
2 for transportation infrastructure be committed to complete construction of I-  
3 69 in Arkansas including the Great River Bridge.

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this resolution, the Chief  
6 Clerk of the House of Representatives shall transmit a copy of this  
7 resolution to the presiding officers of the United States Senate and the  
8 United State House of Representatives; each member of the Arkansas  
9 Congressional Delegation; the President of the United States; the Secretary  
10 of the Department of Transportation; and the Director of the Federal Highway  
11 Administration.

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*/s/ G. Smith*

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