

1 State of Arkansas  
2 84th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2003

SCR 7

4  
5 By: Senators Higginbothom, Broadway

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8 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

9 RECOMMENDING THAT THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED  
10 STATES AND THE ARKANSAS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION  
11 REAUTHORIZE THE TEA-21 HIGHWAY AUTHORIZATION LAW  
12 AND CONTINUE FUNDING OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY  
13 PROGRAM AT THE CURRENT FY 2003 LEVEL OF \$31.8  
14 BILLION.

15  
16 **Subtitle**

17 RECOMMENDING THAT THE TEA-21 HIGHWAY  
18 AUTHORIZATION LAW BE REAUTHORIZED AND  
19 THAT FUNDING BE CONTINUED AT THE CURRENT  
20 FY 2003 LEVEL OF \$31.8 BILLION.

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22 WHEREAS, Fifty percent (50%) of Arkansas' major roads are rated in poor  
23 or mediocre condition and twenty-eight percent (28%) of its bridges are  
24 structurally deficient or functionally obsolete; and

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26 WHEREAS, Arkansas received \$362 million in federal funding for highways  
27 and bridges under the TEA-21 highway authorization law in FY 2002 while  
28 Arkansas motorists generated approximately \$470 million a year in revenues  
29 for the Federal Highway Trust Fund; and

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31 WHEREAS, state highway programs are faced with a potentially  
32 devastating reduction of \$8.6 billion in federal funds due the continuing  
33 effects of the economic recession and an overly optimistic government revenue  
34 projection; and

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36 WHEREAS, the current highway authorization law, the Transportation



1 Equity Act for the 21st Century, expires on September 30, 2003,

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3 NOW THEREFORE,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
5 STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

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7 That it recommends to the Congress of the United States and the  
8 Arkansas Congressional Delegation that the Transportation Equity Act for the  
9 21st Century be reauthorized by September 30, 2003 to guarantee that federal  
10 gas tax revenues are maintained at the current 80% to 20% ratio of highway  
11 funds to transit funds, that revenues for the Highway Trust Fund are  
12 increased to maintain current road and bridge conditions and to relieve  
13 congestion on the highways, that local funding for "truck only" lanes is  
14 encouraged for state and local governments, and that long-term research for  
15 longer lasting pavement and asphalt surfaces be encouraged;

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

18 That, upon adoption of this resolution, the Secretary of the Senate  
19 shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the presiding officers of the  
20 Unites States Senate and the United States House of Representatives, and to  
21 each member of the Arkansas Congressional Delegation.