



HR0437

LRB100 12892 MST 27025 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On May 1, 2017, Great Lakes Basin Transportation,
3 Inc. (GLBT) filed a formal application with the Federal Surface
4 Transportation Board (STB) to construct and operate a private
5 rail line running through Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin; and

6 WHEREAS, This application calls for a 260 mile privately
7 owned and operated railway that would cut through many
8 individuals homes and farmland; and

9 WHEREAS, The use of eminent domain in our State and our
10 nation is to provide land for public use in appropriate
11 instances, it is not for private gain; and

12 WHEREAS, If the plan were imposed in its current form,
13 Grundy County and Kankakee County would lose an estimated \$70
14 million and \$90 million per year respectively in agricultural
15 revenue that could never be replaced; and

16 WHEREAS, The GLBT railway is facing bipartisan opposition
17 from elected officials across three states as well as by
18 certain public railroads; and

19 WHEREAS, The GLBT railway improperly damages the rights of
20 property owners who rightfully own the land in its path,

1 endangers the Kankakee River and local wildlife and habitats,
2 and tears apart the communities who depend on that land;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
6 strongly urge against the Great Lakes Basin Transportation,
7 Inc. (GLBT) railway due to the fiscal, ethical, and
8 environmental strain it would put on the counties this railway
9 goes through; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 delivered to the Federal Surface Transportation Board.