



HR0684

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The General Assembly must work to provide
3 efficient transportation methods that will grow the economy and
4 create much-needed jobs in Illinois; and

5 WHEREAS, The Illiana Expressway project is a proposed
6 transportation corridor between the northern portions of
7 Illinois and Indiana; the corridor is expected to be
8 approximately 50 miles in length, with 10 miles of expressway
9 in Indiana and 40 miles of expressway in Illinois; and

10 WHEREAS, The existing I-55 and I-57 highways provide good
11 routes for north-south travel through the area, but there is a
12 lack of comparable east-west routes south of I-80; and

13 WHEREAS, The Illiana Expressway would provide comparable
14 east-west routes south of I-80 Chicago and be the first
15 public-private partnership in Illinois; and

16 WHEREAS, Public-private partnership projects are the wave
17 of the future; Indiana has already used this model successfully
18 for several projects in their state, including the Chicago
19 Skyway and Ohio River Bridges projects; and

20 WHEREAS, Public-private partnership projects tend to be

1 built faster, cost less, and are more efficiently constructed
2 than traditional highway projects; the projects allow states to
3 build great projects like the Illiana Corridor with less tax
4 dollars and allow taxpayers to realize all of the benefits of
5 the project at a fraction of the cost; and

6 WHEREAS, The Illiana Expressway is projected to generate
7 toll revenue that will completely pay for the project and the
8 operation and maintenance of the facility for the term of the
9 projected agreement through 2053; and

10 WHEREAS, Moving freight is an important part of the
11 Midwestern economy; the Illiana Expressway would provide a
12 bypass for trucks that allows them to travel through the region
13 without passing through the urban areas that currently surround
14 the existing expressways; and

15 WHEREAS, The Illiana Expressway would serve as a
16 much-needed boost to the economy; the Illinois Department of
17 Transportation has estimated that the project will create 9,000
18 construction jobs and over 25,000 long-term jobs for the
19 region; and

20 WHEREAS, The Illiana Expressway would provide the State of
21 Illinois with an opportunity to invest in our future, create
22 jobs, improve traffic safety, and provide a cost effective

1 solution to growing transportation needs; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we express our support for the Illiana Expressway project and
5 urge the members of the General Assembly to take the necessary
6 steps to ensure that the expressway is successfully completed;
7 and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
9 delivered to Secretary of the Illinois Department of
10 Transportation, the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority, the
11 policy board for the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning,
12 the Metropolitan Planning Council, the chairpersons of the
13 DuPage, Kane, Kendall, and Lake County Boards, and the Will
14 County Executive.