



HR0506

LRB104 15858 MST 29074 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is important to build a comprehensive public
3 transit system that works for everyone, supports local
4 businesses, creates good-paying jobs, nurtures tourism,
5 fosters equity for underserved communities, and stimulates the
6 statewide economy for the benefit of all Illinoisans; and

7 WHEREAS, In an unwarranted attack on these goals, the
8 Trump Administration is freezing \$2.1 billion in
9 congressionally approved federal funding that would pay for
10 vital and long-sought-after extensions to the far south end of
11 the Red Line of Chicago's train system and miscellaneous
12 improvements to its Purple Line so it may substantially expand
13 its ridership; and

14 WHEREAS, This new public transit availability would bring
15 greater freedom of movement to an estimated 175,000 daily
16 riders, including people from underserved communities who face
17 transportation deserts that pose unfair roadblocks to low-cost
18 commutes as well as people living in the south Chicago suburbs
19 who have limited access to Chicago public transit, and would
20 so stimulate the Illinois economy; and

21 WHEREAS, Construction of the new train stops would create
22 numerous new good-paying job opportunities for local workers

1 and so stimulate the Illinois economy; and

2 WHEREAS, Local businesses that manage these construction
3 projects would thrive and further stimulate the Illinois
4 economy; and

5 WHEREAS, President Biden unequivocally signed off on this
6 funding, and the Chicago Transit Authority later secured a
7 legal obligation from the federal government that the money
8 would be released; and

9 WHEREAS, President Trump is portraying this indefensible
10 act as an attack on diversity, equity, and inclusion, despite
11 the fact that extending the Red Line train will benefit all
12 Illinoisans regardless of race, age, ideological affiliation,
13 or economic background; and

14 WHEREAS, President Trump's motivation is his vendetta
15 against his political opponents, as this is just a part of the
16 \$28 billion Donald Trump is defunding for similar projects
17 across the country, all from Democratically-controlled cities
18 and states; and

19 WHEREAS, Reneging on promised grants with no warning
20 fosters fiscal uncertainty and will threaten the long-term
21 economic stability of every state in this country; and

1 WHEREAS, Maintaining this funding freeze would cause
2 millions of Illinoisans to be deprived of a future that is more
3 equitable and more financially robust; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we call on President Trump to unfreeze all promised funding
7 for a Red Line train extension on Chicago's South Side; and be
8 it further

9 RESOLVED, That failing to release the promised funding, we
10 condemn President Trump's actions as motivated by spite,
11 counter to the cause of a fairer and more economically strong
12 Illinois, and in direct opposition to his purported goal of
13 "making America great"; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That we will always support transit for
15 historically underserved communities and the rights of diverse
16 contractors.