

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 167

Reps. McKinney, Rheingans, Hill, Paiz, Young, McFall, Edwards, Coleman, Wilson, Andrews, Morgan, Dievendorf, Brixie, Snyder, Liberati, Morse, Tsernoglou, Mentzer, Scott, Martus, O'Neal, Byrnes and Hood offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution in support of federal legislation, HR 4052, to
2 enable the creation of a National Infrastructure Bank.

3 Whereas, In its 2021 report card, the American Society of
4 Civil Engineers (ASCE) reported that the United States received a
5 grade of C- regarding the current state of its infrastructure.
6 There remains a two point five trillion dollar investment gap that
7 has continuously grown over the past decade. ASCE estimates that by
8 2039, this continued underinvestment in critical infrastructure
9 across the country will cost our nation ten trillion dollars in
10 GDP, more than three million jobs, and over two trillion dollars in

1 exports; and

2 Whereas, As of 2023, the ASCE has also scored Michigan's
3 infrastructure with a grade of C-, matching the general state of
4 infrastructure disrepair nationwide. Many of Michigan's roads
5 remain in appalling condition. The ASCE has rated approximately
6 thirty-three percent of Michigan's one-hundred and twenty thousand
7 miles of paved roadways in poor condition, forty-two percent in
8 fair condition, and a mere twenty-five percent in good condition.
9 Wayne County, as just one example, has reported nearly sixty
10 percent of its roads to be in poor condition. Finally, eleven
11 percent of Michigan's bridges have been deemed structurally
12 deficient, higher than the national average of seven-and-one-half
13 percent. These poor infrastructure conditions cost Michigan
14 motorists, collectively, billions of dollars each year in wasted
15 time and fuel, traffic crashes and injuries, and vehicle
16 degradation; and

17 Whereas, The Detroit Public Schools Community District is in a
18 state of dilapidated repair and likely requires over one billion
19 dollars to restore. These schools are suffering from inoperable
20 boilers, corroded plumbing fixtures, cracking exterior walls,
21 leaking roofs, and faulty electrical panels known to be fire
22 hazards. At least one hundred schools have current capital needs.
23 In September 2018, the drinking water in fifty-seven of the eighty-
24 six tested Detroit schools were found to have elevated levels of
25 both copper and lead; and

26 Whereas, Housing insecurity predates the pandemic and remains
27 a pressing concern for Michiganders across the state. There remains
28 a shortage of two-hundred thousand affordable and available rental
29 homes for low-income renters. In 2019, more than ten thousand

1 Detroit residents experienced homelessness, including two-thousand
2 three-hundred and twenty-six who were chronically homeless. Of
3 course, COVID-19 exacerbated this crisis. In January of 2021 alone,
4 more than three-thousand five hundred Detroiters requested rental
5 payment assistance; and

6 Whereas, The United States Congress's introduction of HR 4052,
7 The National Infrastructure Bank Act, which would create a new
8 National Infrastructure Bank, presents a tremendous opportunity for
9 acquiring funding to remedy Michigan's infrastructure problems.
10 This legislation would create a five trillion dollar bank for the
11 purpose of, in pertinent part, "facilitate[ing] efficient, long-
12 term financing of infrastructure projects." This bank would not
13 require additional federal spending or the imposition of new
14 federal taxes, instead being financed entirely by repurposing
15 existing Department of the Treasury debt; and

16 Whereas, The National Infrastructure Bank Act is modeled on
17 the establishment of previous banks utilized to build much of our
18 nation's infrastructure. Similar banks were employed under
19 Presidents George Washington, James Madison, Abraham Lincoln, and
20 Franklin D. Roosevelt. With the resources consolidated and deployed
21 by virtue of the most recent iteration of a national bank,
22 President Roosevelt was able to bring our nation out of the Great
23 Depression and lead us to victory in the Second World War; and

24 Whereas, A new National Infrastructure Bank will help finance
25 all of Michigan's infrastructure needs. This bank, as described in
26 HR 4052, would exist solely to build infrastructure, generate jobs,
27 and battle poverty. Funding from this bank would be used to fix
28 bridges, roads, schools, and drinking water systems; build
29 affordable housing units; and install broadband across the nation.

1 The bank would finance new rail and mass transportation projects,
2 connecting Michigan to high-speed rail corridors in the Midwest and
3 dramatically increasing manufacturing in our state. Funds would be
4 used to hire and train many Michiganders who lost their jobs during
5 the COVID-19 pandemic; and

6 Whereas, Support for a National Infrastructure Bank is
7 widespread across our state and the nation. At least twenty-one
8 state legislatures have introduced or passed resolutions of support
9 for HR 4052 or previously-introduced legislation on the topic.
10 Local-level municipal bodies across the nation have also expressed
11 support, including: Detroit City Council, Dearborn Heights City
12 Council, Highland Park City Council, Inkster City Council,
13 Hamtramck City Council, Romulus City Council, Redford Township
14 Council, Cleveland City Council, Pittsburgh City Council, Chicago
15 City Council, Providence RI City Council, Philadelphia City
16 Council, New York City Council, Toledo City Council, Akron City
17 Council, and many more. National organizations that endorse the
18 establishment of National Infrastructure Bank include: the Public
19 Banking Institute, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators,
20 the National Congress of Black Women, the National Hispanic Caucus,
21 the National Latino Farmers and Ranchers, the Asian Pacific
22 Legislators, the National Association of Counties, the US High
23 Speed Rail Association, the American Sustainable Business Council,
24 the National Association of Minority Contractors, the National
25 Federation of Federal Employees, and many others; now, therefore,
26 be it

27 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we support
28 federal legislation, HR 4052, to enable the creation of a National
29 Infrastructure Bank; and be it further

1 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
2 President of the United States, the Governor, and the Michigan
3 congressional delegation.