

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1       WHEREAS, An integrated, safe, and adequately financed  
2       transportation system is a critical component of the economic,  
3       social, and environmental well-being of both the United States and  
4       Texas; and

5       WHEREAS, The Highway Trust Fund was established by the  
6       Highway Revenue Act of 1956 as a mechanism to finance an accelerated  
7       highway program, including the Interstate Highway System; the  
8       revenues used to finance the trust fund are derived from federal  
9       excise taxes on highway motor fuel and certain truck-related taxes  
10      collected from motorists in all 50 states and paid into the federal  
11      Highway Trust Fund; and

12      WHEREAS, Federal law requires that the money paid into the  
13      trust fund be returned to the states in accordance with  
14      legislatively established formulas that are recalculated every six  
15      years in reauthorization legislation; most recently the  
16      Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) was passed  
17      in 1998; and

18      WHEREAS, Due to funding disparities, 26 states, known as  
19      highway program donor states, receive less than their fair share of  
20      the federal fuel taxes that their citizens have paid into the  
21      highway account of the trust fund; from 1956 to 2001, Texas received  
22      only an average highway program rate of return of 78 percent on the  
23      funds sent to Washington; and

24      WHEREAS, Currently, the United States Congress is drafting

1 legislation to reauthorize TEA-21, which guaranteed a minimum rate  
2 of return of 90.5 percent on federal highway programs; a coalition  
3 of the donor states seeks a guaranteed rate of return of 95 percent  
4 of their share of contributions to the federal Highway Trust Fund,  
5 calculated against all dollars being distributed to the 50 states;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, A 95 percent rate of return would allow Texas to  
8 better address its highway construction, repair, and maintenance  
9 needs; highway projects enhance mobility, improve air quality,  
10 foster economic development, and support thousands of jobs in  
11 Texas; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas  
13 hereby respectfully request the Congress of the United States to  
14 provide equity funding to Texas by increasing the state's highway  
15 program rate of return from the Highway Trust Fund to 95 percent of  
16 Texas' contributions to the fund; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
18 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to  
19 the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the  
20 senate of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the  
21 Texas delegation to the congress with the request that this  
22 resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record as a  
23 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

Campbell  
Berman  
Bonnen  
Callegari  
Chisum  
Cook of Navarro

Baxter  
Bohac  
Brown of Kaufman  
Casteel  
Christian  
Cook of Colorado

H.C.R. No. 82

Corte	Crownover
Davis of Harris	Dawson
Eissler	Flynn
Gattis	Geren
Griggs	Hamilton
Hardcastle	Harper-Brown
Heflin	Hilderbran
Homer	Hope
Howard	Hughes
Hunter	Isett
Jones of Bexar	Keffer of Dallas
Keffer of Eastland	King
Kuempel	Laubenberg
Mercer	Merritt
Miller	Morrison
Paxton	Phillips
Pitts	Puente
Rose	Seaman
Smith of Harris	Smithee
Stick	Swinford
Taylor	Van Arsdale
West	Wohlgemuth
Wong	Zedler

Craddick	Geren	Mercer
Allen	Giddings	Merritt
Alonzo	Goodman	Miller
Bailey	Goolsby	Moreno of Harris
Baxter	Griggs	Moreno of El Paso
Berman	Grusendorf	Morrison
Bohac	Guillen	Mowery
Bonnen	Gutierrez	Naishtat
Branch	Haggerty	Nixon
Brown of Kaufman	Hamilton	Noriega
Brown of Brazos	Hamric	Oliveira
Burnam	Hardcastle	Olivo
Callegari	Harper-Brown	Paxton
Campbell	Hartnett	Pena
Canales	Heflin	Phillips
Capelo	Hegar	Pickett
Casteel	Hilderbran	Pitts
Castro	Hill	Puente
Chavez	Hochberg	Quintanilla
Chisum	Hodge	Raymond
Christian	Homer	Reyna
Coleman	Hope	Riddle
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Ritter
Cook of Colorado	Howard	Rodriguez
Corte	Hughes	Rose
Crabb	Hunter	Seaman
Crownover	Hupp	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Harris	Isett	Smith of Harris
Davis of Dallas	Jones of Lubbock	Smithee
Dawson	Jones of Bexar	Solis
Delisi	Jones of Dallas	Solomons
Denny	Keel	Stick
Deshotel	Keffer of Dallas	Swinford
Driver	Keffer of Eastland	Talton
Dukes	King	Taylor
Dunnam	Kolkhorst	Telford
Dutton	Krusee	Thompson
Edwards	Kuempel	Truitt
Eiland	Laney	Turner
Eissler	Laubenberg	Uresti
Elkins	Lewis	Van Arsdale
Ellis	Luna	Villarreal
Escobar	Mabry	West
Farabee	Madden	Wilson
Farrar	Marchant	Wise
Flores	Martinez Fischer	Wohlgemuth
Flynn	McCall	Wolens
Gallego	McClendon	Wong
Garza	McReynolds	Woolley
Gattis	Menendez	Zedler

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 82 was adopted by the House on April 9, 2003, by a non-record vote; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.C.R. No. 82 on May 23, 2003, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 82 was adopted by the Senate, as amended, on May 21, 2003, by a viva-voce vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor