

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 636 Session of  
2019

---

INTRODUCED BY NEILSON, HILL-EVANS, HARKINS, PASHINSKI,  
SCHLOSSBERG, MERSKI, FREEMAN, McCLINTON, CALTAGIRONE,  
DELLOSO, MALAGARI, YOUNGBLOOD, CIRESI, OTTEN, MARKOSEK,  
MULLINS, SCHWEYER, DRISCOLL, DERMODY, READSHAW, SOLOMON,  
ROEBUCK, DONATUCCI, WHEATLEY, KORTZ, ISAACSON, CEPHAS, DALEY,  
SNYDER, ROZZI, O'MARA, EVERETT, SCHMITT, HENNESSEY,  
HOHENSTEIN, FITZGERALD, MEHAFFIE, McNEILL AND LONGIETTI,  
DECEMBER 16, 2019

---

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, DECEMBER 16, 2019

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to establish a national  
2 infrastructure bank.

3 WHEREAS, Our nation and our State are in the midst of an  
4 infrastructure crisis that is exacerbated by a substantial  
5 shortfall in infrastructure spending; and

6 WHEREAS, The 2017 Infrastructure Report Card from the  
7 American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) gave the United  
8 States a cumulative grade of "D+" across 16 categories and  
9 estimated that the nation needs a \$4.59 trillion investment in  
10 infrastructure by 2025 just to bring this grade up to a "B"; and

11 WHEREAS, ASCE found that continuing on this trajectory and  
12 failing to invest in improvements by 2025 will have serious  
13 economic consequences, including \$3.9 trillion in losses to the  
14 national gross domestic product and job losses of more than 2.5  
15 million; and

1       WHEREAS, The infrastructure crisis in the Commonwealth of  
2 Pennsylvania mirrors that of the country at large; and

3       WHEREAS, ASCE's 2018 Infrastructure Report Card gave our  
4 State a cumulative grade of "C-" across 18 categories, including  
5 a "D+" for roads, a "D" for drinking water and a "D-" for  
6 wastewater treatment; and

7       WHEREAS, ASCE noted that traffic congestion results in more  
8 than \$3.7 billion annually in lost time and wasted fuel, while  
9 deficient roadway conditions cost the average Pennsylvania  
10 motorist more than \$500 in operating and maintenance outlays;  
11 and

12       WHEREAS, ASCE further noted that our State's aging drinking  
13 water infrastructure poses increased public health risks and  
14 will require an additional \$10.2 billion in funding over the  
15 next decade; and

16       WHEREAS, It is past time that the Federal Government develop  
17 a collaborative solution to these infrastructure problems  
18 through the establishment of a national infrastructure bank; and

19       WHEREAS, A national bank is not a new idea, having been  
20 successfully implemented first by President George Washington  
21 and Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton and later by  
22 Presidents John Quincy Adams, Abraham Lincoln and Franklin D.  
23 Roosevelt; and

24       WHEREAS, Previous national infrastructure banks established  
25 by Congress were instrumental in financing the roads, bridges,  
26 canals, roadways, schools, hospitals and power systems that made  
27 our country the envy of the world; and

28       WHEREAS, A national infrastructure bank that partners with  
29 state and local governments can supply the needed financing to  
30 bring infrastructure to a state of good repair; and

1       WHEREAS, This investment would restart various industries in  
2 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, creating millions of new high-  
3 paying jobs; and

4       WHEREAS, The National Congress of Black Women, Democratic  
5 Municipal Officials, National Latino Farmers and Ranchers Trade  
6 Association, National Federation of Federal Employees and  
7 numerous other organizations have endorsed the establishment of  
8 a national infrastructure bank; and

9       WHEREAS, Various state and local governments have passed  
10 resolutions supporting the establishment of a national  
11 infrastructure bank; therefore be it

12       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
13 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United  
14 States to establish a national infrastructure bank; and be it  
15 further

16       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
17 the President of the United States, the presiding officers of  
18 each house of Congress and each member of Congress from  
19 Pennsylvania.