

2010 -- S 2241

LC01553

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

JOINT RESOLUTION

MEMORIALIZING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND MEMBERS OF THE RHODE ISLAND CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO CO-SPONSOR, SUPPORT, AND VOTE IN FAVOR OF DESIGNATED PENDING LEGISLATION

Introduced By: Senators Miller, C Levesque, and Connors

Date Introduced: February 11, 2010

Referred To: Senate Constitutional & Regulatory Issues

1 WHEREAS, Rhode Island has a long and rich history of providing roads, sidewalks, and  
2 public transit services that contribute to the fabric of the state and to the health, welfare, and  
3 safety of the people of the state; and

4 WHEREAS, Transportation infrastructure and public transit services continue to evolve  
5 and can play increasingly important roles in the future; and

6 WHEREAS, All Rhode Islanders can benefit from curtailed energy consumption, from  
7 multiple mobility options offered to people in their communities, and from activity centers linked  
8 to the people who use and benefit from them; and

9 WHEREAS, Pedestrian access and safety are crucial to supporting public transit services;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Increased use of bicycles and pedestrian sidewalks can reduce energy  
12 consumption, reduce emission of greenhouse gas pollution, and reduce rising levels of obesity  
13 among Rhode Islanders; and

14 WHEREAS, Rhode Island can benefit directly from inflows of federal funds for creating  
15 complete streets, planning for increased and improved public transit facilities and options, and  
16 developing plans for an expanded twenty-first century transportation infrastructure; now,  
17 therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence  
19 Plantations hereby urges Rhode Island's Congressional delegation and members of the United

1 States Congress to co-sponsor, support, and vote in favor of the following bills pending in the  
2 Congress of the United States:

- 3 1. Complete Streets Act of 2009 (S-584 and H.R. 1443), a bill that provides that  
4 federal funding flowing to states for roads and transit be spent in compliance  
5 with “Complete Streets” principles which ensure that the safety and convenience  
6 of all users of a transportation system, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public  
7 transit users, children, older individuals, motorists, and individuals with  
8 disabilities, are accommodated in all phases of project planning and  
9 development. The bill allows appropriate exceptions, including if the cost of  
10 such accommodation is excessive.
- 11 2. Transportation Policy and Planning Act 2009 (S-1036), a bill that would  
12 establish national transportation performance targets such as reducing  
13 transportation-generated carbon dioxide emissions by 40 percent by 2030; and  
14 increasing public transit and inter-city rail. The bill also provides significant help  
15 to states and municipalities in reaching these targets.
- 16 3. National Transportation Objectives Act of 2009 (H.R. 2724), a bill that would  
17 create national transportation performance targets including the reduction of per  
18 capita vehicle miles traveled by 16 percent and transportation-generated carbon  
19 dioxide levels by 40 percent, and would provide guidance, assistance, and  
20 funding to states and municipalities to meet those goals.
- 21 4. Clean, Low-Emission, Affordable New Transportation Efficiency Act (CLEAN-  
22 TEA) (S-575; H.R. 1329), a bill that would earmark 10 percent of the proceeds of  
23 any EPA-administered auction of greenhouse gas allowances for public-transit-  
24 related projects aimed at reducing emissions of greenhouse gases. The bill also  
25 requires metropolitan areas of over 200,000 people (and allows metropolitan  
26 areas of under 200,000) to develop 10-year plans for substantial reductions of  
27 greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector and provides federal  
28 funding to support implementation of the plans; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to  
30 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Rhode Island Congressional delegation.

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