

SENATE RESOLUTION NO.77

Senators Alexander, Wojno, Ananich, Geiss, Brinks, Polehanki, McMorrow, Irwin, Moss, Santana, Bayer, Hertel, Chang, McBroom, Bullock, Hollier and Schmidt offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to support the creation of a National
2 Infrastructure Bank.

3 Whereas, The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) stated
4 in its 2021 report card that the United States received a grade of
5 C- regarding the current state of infrastructure and that \$6
6 trillion would be needed to restore the nation's infrastructure to
7 a state of good repair. Over \$2.5 trillion is currently not funded
8 and the remainder is inadequately funded. New 21st Century projects
9 are also unfunded; and

10 Whereas, The ASCE grade for Michigan infrastructure is D+.
11 Many of Michigan's roads remain in appalling condition. 39 percent

1 of Michigan's 120,000 miles of paved roadways are rated in poor
2 condition, 43 percent are rated in fair condition, and just 18
3 percent are rated in good condition. Poor road conditions are
4 costing each Michigan motorist more than \$600 per year; Wayne
5 County reported that 58 percent of its roads are in poor condition;
6 11 percent of the state's bridges are structurally deficient; and

7 Whereas, The Detroit public schools are in a state of
8 dilapidated repair and will cost at least \$1-1.5 billion to repair.
9 There are inoperable boilers, corroded plumbing fixtures, exterior
10 walls with cracks, roof leaks, and electrical panels in classrooms
11 known to be fire hazards. Capital needs exist in at least 100
12 schools. As of September 2018, elevated levels of copper and lead
13 were confirmed in 57 of 86 schools tested; and

14 Whereas, Housing insecurity in Michigan predates the pandemic.
15 The shortage of rental homes which are affordable and available for
16 low income renters is 204,728. In 2019, more than 10,000 Detroiters
17 experienced homelessness, including 2,326 who were chronically
18 homeless. COVID-19 worsened the situation. In January 2021, more
19 than 3,500 Detroiters requested rental payment assistance from
20 Michigan; and

21 Whereas, Congress introduced HR 3339, The National
22 Infrastructure Bank Act, to create a new National Infrastructure
23 Bank. This legislation creates a \$5 trillion bank, authorized to
24 invest in infrastructure projects only. It would require no new
25 federal spending and no new federal taxes; it would be capitalized
26 by repurposing existing Treasury debt, as was done previously in
27 U.S. history; and

28 Whereas, The National Infrastructure Bank is modeled on
29 previous banks which helped build much of our infrastructure under

1 Presidents George Washington, James Madison, Abraham Lincoln, and
2 Franklin D. Roosevelt. The last such bank helped bring us out of
3 the Depression and win WWII; and

4 Whereas, A new National Infrastructure Bank will help finance
5 all the infrastructure needs of Michigan. It is mandated to build
6 infrastructure and create jobs in rural and urban communities and
7 all communities of color, and to end poverty. It will fix bridges,
8 roads, schools, drinking water systems, build all needed affordable
9 housing units, and install broadband everywhere. It will finance
10 new rail and mass transportation projects; it will connect the
11 state to high speed rail corridors in the Midwest and dramatically
12 increase manufacturing in the state. It will hire and train the
13 people who have lost their jobs before and during the Covid
14 pandemic; and

15 Whereas, Many organizations have issued endorsements. Twenty-
16 one state legislatures have introduced or passed resolutions of
17 support, as have county and city councils. These include: Dearborn
18 Heights City Council, Highland Park City Council, Inkster City
19 Council, Hamtramck City Council, Romulus City Council, Redford
20 Township Council, Cleveland City Council, Pittsburgh City Council,
21 Chicago City Council, Providence RI City Council, Philadelphia City
22 Council, New York City Council, Toledo City Council, Akron City
23 Council, and many more. Among the national endorsements are: The
24 Public Banking Institute, the National Congress of Black Women, the
25 National Association of Counties, the US High Speed Rail
26 Association, the National Latino Farmers and Ranchers, the US High
27 Speed Rail Association, the American Sustainable Business Council,
28 the National Association of Minority Contractors, the National
29 Federation of Federal Employees, and many more organizations; now,

1 therefore, be it

2 Resolved by the Senate, That we support the creation of a
3 National Infrastructure Bank; and be it further

4 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
5 members of the Michigan congressional delegation, the Governor, and
6 the President of the United States.