



SPONSOR: Sen. Ennis
Sens. Gay, Hansen, Mantzavinos, S. McBride, Paradee,
Poore, Sokola, Townsend, Walsh

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 25

SUPPORTING FEDERAL LEGISLATION, H.R. 3339, TO CREATE A NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK.

1 WHEREAS, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) stated in its 2021 Report Card for America's
2 Infrastructure that the United States received a grade of "C-" regarding the current state of infrastructure and that more than
3 \$5,000,000,000,000 would be needed to restore the nation's infrastructure to a state of good repair; and

4 WHEREAS, currently more than \$2,500,000,000,000 of the United States' infrastructure needs are unfunded and
5 the remainder is inadequately funded; and

6 WHEREAS, the ASCE identified the following regarding Delaware's infrastructure: 63 of the 83 dams in the State
7 are rated high-hazard potential; drinking-water infrastructure needs are at least \$806,000,000; 16% of Delaware roads are in
8 poor condition, costing each Delaware motorist \$456 per year from driving on roads in need of repair; of Delaware's 879
9 bridges, 3.2% were rated structurally deficient; the capital expenditure gap for State schools is \$102,000,000; there are
10 \$206,000,000 in wastewater infrastructure needs; and

11 WHEREAS, funding is not currently available for federal 21st century projects that would transform transportation
12 and increase employment in our State, such as construction of high-speed rail lines and upgrades in passenger rail service in
13 the Northeast Corridor; and

14 WHEREAS, opportunity would be created by new industries and business moving to Delaware to build and supply
15 expanded passenger and high-speed rail; and

16 WHEREAS, H.R. 3339, the National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2021 (Act), was introduced in the House of
17 Representatives of the United States Congress for the purpose of creating a National Infrastructure Bank; and

18 WHEREAS, the Act would create a \$5,000,000,000,000 bank, authorized to invest solely in infrastructure
19 projects; and

20 WHEREAS, the National Infrastructure Bank would not require new federal spending or new federal taxes but
21 rather would be capitalized by repurposing existing Treasury debt; and

22 WHEREAS, the National Infrastructure Bank is modeled on previous banks that helped build much of the United
23 States' infrastructure under Presidents George Washington, John Quincy Adams, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D.
24 Roosevelt and helped the United States overcome the Great Depression and win World War II; and

25 WHEREAS, a new National Infrastructure Bank could help finance much of Delaware's infrastructure needs in
26 partnership with State and local governments, and other authorities, and create high-paying jobs for those who have lost
27 employment during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

28 WHEREAS, a new National Infrastructure Bank could create 25,000,000 new jobs, pay Davis-Bacon wages,
29 ensure project labor agreements, mandate "Buy American" provisions, award a significant number of contracts to
30 disadvantaged business enterprises, and require large-scale minority hiring; and

31 WHEREAS, experts predict a National Infrastructure Bank would grow the economy by 5% per year, as did its
32 predecessors; and

33 WHEREAS, 21 state legislatures have introduced or passed resolutions of support, including the Nevada
34 Legislature, the Maine State Legislature, the Rhode Island Senate, the New Jersey Senate, the New Mexico Senate, the
35 Pennsylvania State Senate, and the Illinois Senate; and

36 WHEREAS, city councils have passed resolutions in support, including Philadelphia, PA; Toledo, OH;
37 Providence, RI; Pittsburgh, PA; and Cleveland, OH; and

38 WHEREAS, many national organizations endorse the creation of the National Infrastructure Bank including the
39 Public Banking Institute, the National Congress of Black Women, the National Association of Counties, the US High Speed
40 Rail Association, the National Latino Farmers and Ranchers Trade Association, the American Sustainable Business
41 Council, the National Association of Minority Contractors, and the United Association Union of Plumbers, Fitters,
42 Welders, and Service Techs.

43 NOW, THEREFORE:

44 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 151st General Assembly of the State of Delaware that Delaware's U.S.
45 Congressional Delegation, Senator Thomas R. Carper, Senator Christopher A. Coons, and Representative Lisa Blunt
46 Rochester, are urged to support H.R. 3339 to create a National Infrastructure Bank to finance urgently needed infrastructure
47 projects.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate urges the President of the United States, Joseph R. Biden, Jr., to
49 support H.R. 3339.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate send suitable copies of this resolution to the
51 members of Delaware's U.S. Congressional Delegation and President Biden so they may be apprised of the sense of the
52 Delaware Senate in this matter.

SYNOPSIS

This Senate Simple Resolution urges Delaware's U.S. Congressional Delegation and the President of the United States to support federal legislation, H.R. 3339, to establish a National Infrastructure Bank to fund urgently needed infrastructure projects.

Author: Senator Ennis