



SPONSOR: Sen. Bunting

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
146th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 21

REQUESTING THAT THE DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OR ENGAGE IN A STUDY, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE, TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF CONSTRUCTING A BAY BRIDGE TUNNEL ACROSS THE DELAWARE BAY IN THE LOWER BAY AREA TO LINK SUSSEX COUNTY, DELAWARE AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

1 WHEREAS, the economy of the State of Delaware stands to benefit tremendously from the construction of a bay
2 bridge tunnel system across the Delaware Bay in the lower Bay area to link Sussex County, Delaware and the State of New
3 Jersey; and

4 WHEREAS, the economic benefit to states in the region, including Delaware, New Jersey, Virginia, Maryland,
5 Pennsylvania and New York, can be expected to be very substantial; and

6 WHEREAS, , a Delaware Bay Bridge Tunnel would create a corridor from Virginia through Maryland and
7 Delaware into New Jersey that would facilitate commerce and travel by passenger cars; and

8 WHEREAS, a Delaware Bay Bridge Tunnel would help to relieve the enormous traffic congestion that exists at
9 times along the Interstate 95 corridor, likely saving millions of dollars annually in fuel and other economic costs; and

10 WHEREAS, a Delaware Bay Bridge Tunnel could be financed by revenue bonds and the income from tolls could
11 be sufficient to pay the entire cost of constructing and maintaining the system; and

12 WHEREAS, the construction of a Delaware Bay Bridge Tunnel would create economic benefits in terms of
13 thousands of jobs related to construction, equipment manufacture and supply, and materials manufacture and supply; and

14 WHEREAS, a Delaware Bay Bridge Tunnel would relieve the increasing strain placed on aging bridges and
15 roadways along the Interstate 95 corridor, which are required to shoulder ever increasing amounts of traffic, and thereby
16 perhaps avoid or defray millions of dollars in expansion, maintenance, and repair work; and

17 WHEREAS, the distance to be covered by a Delaware Bay Bridge Tunnel is approximately 17 miles; and

18 WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, which links Virginia and the Eastern Shore of Maryland, is a 23-
19 mile crossing system;

20 NOW THEREFORE:

21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 146th General Assembly of the State of Delaware that the Delaware
22 Department of Transportation is requested to either commission or engage in a study, in conjunction with the University of
23 Delaware, to determine the feasibility of constructing a Delaware Bay Bridge and Tunnel system across the Delaware Bay
24 in the lower Bay area to link Sussex County, Delaware and the State of New Jersey. The study shall include assessing the
25 feasibility of constructing vertical windmills to generate electricity as part of the overall design of the system.

SYNOPSIS

This Resolution requests the Delaware Department of Transportation to either commission or engage in a study, in conjunction with the University of Delaware, to determine the feasibility of constructing a Delaware Bay Bridge and Tunnel system across the lower Bay area to link Sussex County, Delaware and the State of New Jersey. The study will include assessing the feasibility of constructing vertical windmills to generate electricity as part of the overall design of the system.

Author: Sen. Bunting