

HM 7025

2017

## 1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States,  
3 urging Congress to establish block grant funding for  
4 the federal-aid highway program and discontinue  
5 federal transportation mandates requiring certain  
6 actions in order to maintain federal funding  
7 eligibility.

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9 WHEREAS, Americans are a highly mobile people who depend on  
10 reliable and effective transportation infrastructure to travel  
11 to and from work, conduct business, access affordable housing,  
12 and participate in recreational activities in their communities,  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, chronic congestion that plagues the country's  
15 network of surface transportation infrastructure such as roads  
16 and bridges ultimately impairs the mobility of Americans, and

17 WHEREAS, the federal role in highway transportation has  
18 gradually usurped the role of the states, and

19 WHEREAS, the Federal Government has used the federal motor  
20 fuels tax revenues to force all states to take actions that are  
21 not necessarily appropriate for an individual state, and

22 WHEREAS, federal mandates that apply to all states,  
23 regardless of the unique conditions and needs of the states,  
24 require the states to dedicate billions of tax dollars for

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25 projects, programs, and activities that the states might not  
26 otherwise undertake, and

27 WHEREAS, current federal transportation funding programs  
28 generate cross-subsidies between states and between modes of  
29 transportation, and

30 WHEREAS, each state has the responsibility of providing an  
31 efficient transportation network for the residents of that  
32 state, and

33 WHEREAS, each state is best capable of determining the  
34 needs of the state and acting on those needs, and

35 WHEREAS, the Federal Government has acknowledged the  
36 benefits of empowering state transportation decisionmaking  
37 through the creation of the Surface Transportation Block Grant  
38 Program to allow more flexible funding to best address state and  
39 local transportation needs, and

40 WHEREAS, the Federal Government has also recognized the  
41 ability of states to assume responsibility for environmental  
42 review of their transportation projects as required under the  
43 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and

44 WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature, which is directly  
45 accountable to the citizens of Florida, is the appropriate body  
46 to determine transportation funding priorities that best serve  
47 the transportation needs of Florida's citizens, NOW, THEREFORE,

48

49 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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51 (1) That the Congress of the United States is urged to  
52 empower states to promote innovative, cost-effective solutions  
53 to address our nation's transportation problems;

54 (2) That, in furtherance of this objective, the Congress  
55 of the United States is urged to establish block grant funding  
56 for surface transportation systems which provides states with  
57 maximum discretionary authority and responsibility for the  
58 construction, operation, and maintenance of such systems;

59 (3) That this memorial specifically urges the Congress of  
60 the United States to authorize the federal-aid highway program  
61 to be allocated to the states in the form of block grants to  
62 provide states with greater control and flexibility; and

63 (4) That this memorial serves as a notice and demand for  
64 the prohibition of federal mandates that incentivize states to  
65 take certain actions in order to maintain federal transportation  
66 funding eligibility.

67 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
68 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the  
69 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the  
70 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of  
71 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.