

By Senator Sebesta

16-1451-05

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Senate Memorial No. _____

A memorial to the President and Congress of the United States, urging the President and Congress to expedite the reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.

WHEREAS, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, commonly called TEA-21, enacted June 9, 1998, expired September 30, 2003, and

WHEREAS, short-term federal transportation funding has been maintained without disruption through the passage of six extensions, the latest of which expires May 31, 2005, and

WHEREAS, the Bush Administration, the United States Senate, and the United States House of Representatives have developed proposed legislation that differ in some respects, primarily funding levels, and

WHEREAS, for fiscal year 2004-2005, the Florida Department of Transportation received \$1.5 billion in federal transportation funds that were used to plan, build, improve, and maintain federal and state roads and bridges and to plan and finance aviation, rail, and public transit projects, and

WHEREAS, federal transportation funds supply about one-third of Florida's transportation budget, and

WHEREAS, Florida depends on a stable source of federal funding to successfully plan for and implement its statutorily required 5-year work program, and

WHEREAS, Florida is the nation's third-fastest growing state with varied transportation access needs to improve public mobility, travel safety, and economic development, and

WHEREAS, historically, Florida has been a donor state when it comes to transportation funding and currently receives

1 86 cents in federal transportation funding for each dollar in
2 transportation taxes and fees contributed, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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6 That the President and the Congress of the United
7 States are requested to expedite reauthorization of the
8 Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century to guarantee
9 Florida and the other 49 states at least a 95-percent rate of
10 return on all federal transportation funds distributed.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
12 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
13 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
14 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
15 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

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