

HOUSE RESOLUTION 323

By Grills

A RESOLUTION to commend the efforts of the Tennessee Department of Transportation to complete Interstate 69 in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the highways of the State of Tennessee are the vital lifeblood of our communities and the heart of their economic development; and

WHEREAS, enhancing the highway infrastructure of a region brings growth and new opportunities to nearby communities that can drastically improve the quality of life of local residents; and

WHEREAS, in West Tennessee, the construction of Interstate 69 is of vital importance and an integral segment of High Priority Corridor 18 across mid-America, which will become an additional part of the National Highway System; and

WHEREAS, having stopped work on Interstate 69 in 2012 due to lack of federal funding, the Tennessee Department of Transportation determined in 2015 that there would be huge value in finishing the highway to its link with Interstate 55; and

WHEREAS, according to the Tennessee Department of Transportation, progress on Interstate 69 in Northwest Tennessee is in various phases of development, including the exchange in Fulton and the section south of Union City to Dyersburg; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Transportation has said that the remaining segments of the planned route through West Tennessee, including parts in Lauderdale, Tipton, and Shelby counties, will "continue to be in a held status until there is dedicated federal funding"; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that this highway project be completed, as Interstate 69 will enhance regional and local transportation systems by providing transportation capacity to meet current and future needs; and

WHEREAS, it will also facilitate economic development and enhance economic growth opportunities, providing more job opportunities for area residents, in addition to providing greater access to beautiful Reelfoot Lake and Northwest Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we commend the Tennessee Department of Transportation's work on Interstate 69 in West Tennessee, understanding the immense positive effect the project will have on the economic development and quality of life of Tennesseans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to Commissioner Clay Bright of the Tennessee Department of Transportation.