

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

H.R. 266
Mar 10, 2021
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE SIMPLE RESOLUTION DRHR30143-LG-66

Sponsors: Representative Willingham.

Referred to:

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO CREATE A NATIONAL
2 INFRASTRUCTURE BANK.

3 Whereas, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) stated in its 2017 report
4 card that the United States received a grade of D+ regarding the current state of infrastructure
5 and that more than four and one-half trillion dollars would be needed to restore the nation's
6 infrastructure to a state of good repair. Over two trillion dollars is currently not funded, and the
7 remainder is inadequately funded. New 21st Century projects are also unfunded; and

8 Whereas, North Carolina has the 18th highest share of interstate bridges rated in poor
9 or structurally deficient condition in the nation, and 21% of the State's interstate bridges are in
10 need of repair or replacement. Over the next decade, the North Carolina Department of
11 Transportation has funds available for 17% of the needed projects and new funds are projected
12 to decline; the State needs \$17-26 billion over the next 20 years to fund drinking water and
13 wastewater systems; and North Carolina needs to build over 900,000 new affordable housing
14 units. A new high-speed rail system from Atlanta to Washington, D.C., would transform travel
15 in North Carolina; and

16 Whereas, a new National Infrastructure Bank (NIB) could help finance much of the
17 infrastructure of North Carolina in partnership with state and local governments, and other
18 institutions; it would also hire people who have lost their jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic;
19 and

20 Whereas, the NIB is modeled on previous banks which helped build much of our
21 infrastructure under Presidents George Washington, James Madison, Abraham Lincoln, and
22 Franklin D. Roosevelt. The last such bank helped bring us out of the Depression and win World
23 War II; and

24 Whereas, in March of 2020, H.R. 6422, The National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2020,
25 was introduced in Congress to facilitate efficient investments and financing of infrastructure
26 projects and new job creation through the establishment of a National Infrastructure Bank. This
27 legislation proposed a \$4 trillion bank, authorized to invest in infrastructure projects only. It
28 would require no new federal spending and be capitalized by repurposing existing Treasury debt,
29 as was done previously in United States history; and

30 Whereas, a new National Infrastructure Bank would create 25 million new
31 high-paying jobs, pay Davis-Bacon wages, ensure Project Labor Agreements, and include Buy
32 American provisions. Disadvantaged Business Enterprises would receive significant numbers of
33 contracts, and the bill would mandate large-scale minority hiring. According to experts, the Bank
34 would grow the economy by 4-5% per year as did its predecessors; and

35 Whereas, many organizations have issued endorsements for the creation of a National
36 Infrastructure Bank. Seventeen state legislatures introduced or passed resolutions of support, as
37 have county and city councils. Endorsements include: The National Congress of Black Women,



1 National Association of Counties, U.S. High Speed Rail Association, National Latino Farmers
2 and Ranchers, American Sustainable Business Council, National Association of Minority
3 Contractors, National Federation of Federal Employees, and many other organizations; Now,
4 therefore,

5 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

6 **SECTION 1.** The North Carolina House of Representatives calls upon the United
7 States Congress to introduce and pass legislation similar to H.R. 6422 to create a National
8 Infrastructure Bank to finance urgently needed infrastructure projects throughout the United
9 States.

10 **SECTION 2.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit copies of this resolution to each
11 member of North Carolina's Congressional delegation, Governor Roy Cooper, and President
12 Joseph Biden.

13 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.