

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 6

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R2

1999 Regular Session
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By: **Delegates Taylor, Hixson, Healey, Bozman, C. Davis, Shriver, Hurson,
Heller, and Franchot**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 1999

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Commission on Transportation Investment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Commission on Transportation Investment to
4 examine the needs and funding of the transportation system in the State of
5 Maryland; providing for the membership of the Commission; providing for
6 certain notice procedures for meetings of the Commission; providing for a
7 certain report; and generally relating to a Commission to examine the needs and
8 funding of the transportation system in the State of Maryland.

9 WHEREAS, The transportation system of this State is funded entirely by the
10 Transportation Trust Fund which is independent of the General Fund;

11 WHEREAS, The largest source of revenue dedicated to the Transportation Trust
12 Fund, the motor fuel tax, is not sensitive to inflation, thereby creating a revenue
13 shortfall once system preservation and improvement needs begin to outpace
14 revenues;

15 WHEREAS, An impending revenue shortfall would prevent the State from
16 addressing approximately \$400 million in future unmet transportation needs across
17 the State; and

18 WHEREAS, A comprehensive, long-term solution is necessary to avoid a
19 revenue shortfall and ensure that revenues dedicated to the Transportation Trust
20 Fund are sufficient to maintain our existing infrastructure and meet the State's
21 future unmet transportation needs; and

22 WHEREAS, In 1988, the Governor and the Speaker established a
23 Transportation Investment Committee to review future transportation needs and
24 submit recommendations on ways to maintain a healthy transportation system; and

25 WHEREAS, There is a long-term need to continue the work of this Committee;
26 now, therefore, be it

27 **RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND**, That the
28 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House are requested to
29 establish a Commission on Transportation Investment to examine the transportation

1 needs of the State, receive input from the public on the potential impact of the
2 impending shortfall of revenues dedicated to the Transportation Trust Fund, review
3 the current transportation funding system, and make recommendations on:

4 (1) The magnitude of system preservation and unmet transportation needs
5 that must be funded if the State is to enhance and maintain a viable transportation
6 system;

7 (2) The appropriate level of funding necessary to support a viable
8 transportation system that is within the abilities of the Maryland Department of
9 Transportation to administer; and

10 (3) The development of a comprehensive, long-term solution that generates
11 revenues sufficient to maintain a viable transportation system and meet the
12 long-term funding needs of mass transit; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Commission on Transportation Investment be composed
14 of:

15 (1) Six members of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the
16 House, and six members of the Senate of Maryland appointed by the President of the
17 Senate;

18 (2) The following members appointed by the Governor:

19 (a) The Secretary of the Department of Transportation;

20 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management;

21 (c) The Director of the Office of Planning;

22 (d) A representative of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit
23 Authority;

24 (e) A representative of Marylanders for Efficient and Safe Highways;

25 (f) A representative of the trucking industry;

26 (g) A representative of an environmental advocacy group; and

27 (h) Four members of the public appointed by the Governor; and be it
28 further

29 RESOLVED, That the Governor shall designate the Chairman of the
30 Commission on Transportation Investment after consultation with the President of
31 the Senate and Speaker of the House; and be it further

32 RESOLVED, That, to the extent practicable, the Governor shall attempt to
33 ensure regional, economic, ethnic, and gender diversity on the Commission; and be it
34 further

1 RESOLVED, That the Commission on Transportation Investment report its
2 findings recommendations to the Governor, and as provided in § 2-1246 of the State
3 Government Article, to the General Assembly by December 1, 1999; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That staff for the Commission be provided by the Maryland
5 Department of Transportation and the Department of Legislative Services; and be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That notice of each meeting of the Commission be made public by
8 delivering a copy of the meeting notice to the Legislative Information Officer, Room
9 B-6, Department of Legislative Services, Legislative Services Building, 90 State
10 Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991. During the Interim, the notice should be
11 delivered no later than Thursday at 9 a.m. and, during the legislative session,
12 Wednesday, at 9 a.m., for inclusion in the weekly Hearing Schedule; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
14 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;
15 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
16 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.