

Regular Session, 2008

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 138

BY REPRESENTATIVES PATRICIA SMITH AND ST. GERMAIN

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources to convene a conference on expanding mass transit in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the current rise of oil and gasoline prices had attained a record one hundred seventeen dollars a barrel for oil and almost four dollars a gallon for diesel gasoline by the week of April 14, 2008, with many projections calling for regular gasoline to reach four dollars a gallon by the summer; and

WHEREAS, this rise in oil and gasoline prices is combining with other economic trends such as a falling dollar to impact a wide range of commodity prices, including food prices; and

WHEREAS, consumers in Louisiana are vulnerable to the economic stress caused by such trends, due to the state's levels of poverty and the lack of transportation alternatives in many areas, which leave working people no other options besides driving to their places of employment; and

WHEREAS, this vulnerability makes it incumbent upon Louisiana's public bodies and officials to undertake planning processes that aim at responding to such trends to help alleviate their impacts on the state's citizens and ensure prosperity in the future; and

WHEREAS, the development of transportation alternatives such as mass transit is a critical component of planning for the state's future transportation system and demands an assessment of available resources and their allocation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to convene a public conference in the year 2008 devoted to the topic of expanding mass transit in Louisiana and that this conference be developed in coordination with other appropriate state

agencies such as the Department of Natural Resources, bodies such as the Louisiana Public Transit Association, the Louisiana Municipal Association, the Police Jury Association, the Louisiana Conference of Mayors, and industry and other stakeholders from the private sector, as well as the House and Senate transportation committees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development and the secretary of the Department of Natural Resources.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE