

A RESOLUTION expressing support for the creation of an Interstate 65 Spur incorporating the existing William H. Natcher Parkway.

WHEREAS, the William H. Natcher Parkway, opened on December 15, 1972, as the Green River Parkway, is a high quality, limited-access freeway; and

WHEREAS, for over 40 years, the William H. Natcher/Green River Parkway has served the western Kentucky region well, providing fast, efficient, and reliable transportation for the motoring public and acting as a conduit for business development and economic expansion; and

WHEREAS, the William H. Natcher Parkway completes a vital link in an unfinished chain that is Kentucky's interstate highway system, filling what would be a gap that connects Interstate 65 with the area around Owensboro, the Commonwealth's fourth-largest city and one of the largest cities east of the Mississippi River not directly served by an interstate highway; and

WHEREAS, because of its unique geographic location, the William H. Natcher Parkway is ideally suited to be upgraded and designated as a spur of Interstate 65; such a designation would be a boon to industrial and economic development in Butler, Ohio, and Daviess Counties, who often find that the lack of interstate highway access is a deterrent to business recruitment efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Western Kentucky Caucus of the Kentucky General Assembly recognizes the untapped potential of this area, understands what this designation could mean to the region, and heartily endorses this effort;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives do hereby express their support of the proposal to upgrade the William H. Natcher Parkway and designate it an Interstate 65 Spur.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall forward a copy of this Resolution to the members of Kentucky's delegation to the United States Congress.

➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall forward a copy of this Resolution to Secretary Anthony Foxx, United States Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590.

➔Section 4. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall forward a copy of this Resolution to Governor Steven L. Beshear and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Secretary Mike Hancock.