

A RESOLUTION expressing support for the creation of an Interstate 65 Spur from Bowling Green to Owensboro incorporating the existing William Natcher Green River Parkway.

WHEREAS, the William Natcher Green River Parkway, opened on December 15, 1972, as the Green River Parkway, is a limited-access freeway connecting the cities of Bowling Green and Owensboro; and

WHEREAS, for over 40 years, the William 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 Natcher Green River Parkway is a high-quality, limited-access highway built to interstate standards; and

WHEREAS, the 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 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 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 Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***

***Kentucky:***

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

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate 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 Senate 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 Senate shall forward a copy of this Resolution to Governor Steven L. Beshear and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Secretary Mike Hancock.