

**As Introduced**

**133rd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2019-2020**

**H. R. No. 348**

**Representative Skindell**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Ingram, Lightbody, Sobecki, Russo, Boyd, Boggs**

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**A RESOLUTION**

To urge the United States Congress to pass House 1  
Resolution 6422 to create a National 2  
Infrastructure Bank to finance urgently needed 3  
infrastructure projects. 4

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

WHEREAS, The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) 5  
stated in its 2017 report card that the United States received a 6  
grade of D+ regarding the current state of infrastructure and 7  
that more than four-and-a-half trillion dollars would be needed 8  
to restore the nation's infrastructure to a state of good 9  
repair. Public spending on infrastructure fell by eight per cent 10  
over the past fifteen years. Over two trillion dollars is 11  
currently not funded, and the remainder is inadequately funded. 12  
New projects remain unfunded; and 13

WHEREAS, The ASCE report card also gave the state of Ohio a 14  
low grade, and in 2019 it gave Northeast Ohio a D+. The state 15  
will need to invest at least twelve billion two hundred million 16  
dollars to upgrade the drinking water systems, fourteen billion 17  
six hundred million dollars to upgrade waste water systems, 18  
nearly seven per cent of the state's bridges are rated 19  
structurally deficient, and driving on roads in poor repair 20

costs each driver five hundred forty-five dollars a year; and 21

WHEREAS, The impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the 22  
economy has been massive, with millions of people either 23  
temporarily or permanently out of work and shortages of hospital 24  
beds and equipment and machinery across all areas of the 25  
economy; and 26

WHEREAS, A new National Infrastructure Bank (NIB) could 27  
directly finance these projects. The NIB could also help finance 28  
health care infrastructure needed to address the current 29  
emergency, and it could also put people who have lost their jobs 30  
back to work in higher-paying employment; and 31

WHEREAS, The NIB is modeled on previous banks that helped 32  
build much of our nation's infrastructure, including 33  
infrastructure in Ohio. Under Presidents George Washington, 34  
James Madison, John Quincy Adams, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin 35  
D. Roosevelt, similar institutions helped finance the roads, 36  
dams, bridges, canals, power systems, and railroads that made 37  
our nation the envy of the world. The final such institution 38  
helped bring us out of the Great Depression and win World War 39  
II; and 40

WHEREAS, The NIB will operate as its predecessors did and 41  
be capitalized by existing United States Treasury debt, 42  
requiring no new appropriations. It will be able to invest four 43  
trillion dollars into urgently needed infrastructure projects 44  
and create twenty-five million new, high-paying, Davis-Bacon 45  
wage jobs. It will raise productivity to three to five per cent 46  
per year, and increase the gross domestic product to the four to 47  
five per cent level. Those results were achieved previously and 48  
will occur again; and 49

WHEREAS, Many organizations have introduced or passed 50  
resolutions in support of this policy, including seventeen state 51  
legislatures, many city and county councils, the National 52

Congress of Black Women, the National Latino Farmers and 53  
Ranchers, the National Association of Counties, the National 54  
Federation of Federal Employees, and many others. The United 55  
States Congress introduced House Resolution (H.R.) 6422 to 56  
create the NIB; now therefore be it 57

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Ohio House of 58  
Representatives, call upon the United States Congress to pass 59  
H.R. 6422 to create a National Infrastructure Bank to finance 60  
urgently needed infrastructure projects; and be it further 61

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 62  
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to each 63  
member of the Ohio congressional delegation, the president of 64  
the United States, and the news media of Ohio. 65