

As Introduced

**134th General Assembly
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H. R. No. 19

Representatives Sobecki, Stephens

**Cosponsors: Representatives Skindell, Miranda, Galonski, Crossman, Seitz,
Miller, A., Miller, J., Smith, K., Russo, Weinstein, Hoops, Swearingen**

A R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

WHEREAS, The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) 4
stated in its 2017 report card that the United States received a 5
grade of D+ regarding the current state of infrastructure and 6
that more than four-and-a-half trillion dollars would be needed 7
to restore the nation's infrastructure to a state of good 8
repair. Public spending on infrastructure fell by eight per cent 9
over the past fifteen years. Over two trillion dollars is 10
currently not funded, and the remainder is inadequately funded. 11
New projects remain unfunded; and 12

WHEREAS, The ASCE report card also gave the state of Ohio a 13
low grade, and in 2019 it gave Northeast Ohio a D+. The state 14
will need to invest at least thirteen billion dollars to upgrade 15
the drinking water systems and fourteen billion dollars to 16
upgrade waste water systems, more than six per cent of the 17
state's bridges are rated structurally deficient, and driving on 18

roads in poor repair costs each driver more than five hundred 19
dollars per year; and 20

WHEREAS, The impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the 21
economy has been massive, with millions of people either 22
temporarily or permanently out of work and shortages of hospital 23
beds and equipment and machinery across all areas of the 24
economy; and 25

WHEREAS, A new National Infrastructure Bank (NIB) could 26
directly finance these projects. The NIB could also help finance 27
health care infrastructure needed to address the current 28
emergency, and it could also put people who have lost their jobs 29
back to work in higher-paying employment; and 30

WHEREAS, The NIB is modeled on previous banks that helped 31
build much of our nation's infrastructure, including 32
infrastructure in Ohio. Under Presidents George Washington, 33
James Madison, John Quincy Adams, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin 34
D. Roosevelt, similar institutions helped finance the roads, 35
dams, bridges, canals, power systems, and railroads that made 36
our nation the envy of the world. The final such institution 37
helped bring us out of the Great Depression and win World War 38
II; and 39

WHEREAS, The NIB will operate as its predecessors did and 40
be capitalized by existing United States Treasury debt, 41
requiring no new appropriations. It will be able to invest four 42
trillion dollars into urgently needed infrastructure projects 43
and create twenty-five million new, high-paying, Davis-Bacon 44
wage jobs. It will lead to a total factor productivity increase 45
of more than three per cent per year, and a gross domestic 46
product increase of more than five per cent per year. Those 47
results were achieved previously and will occur again; now 48
therefore be it 49

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Ohio House of 50

Representatives, call upon the United States Congress to create 51
a National Infrastructure Bank to finance urgently needed 52
infrastructure projects; and be it further 53

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 54
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to each 55
member of the Ohio congressional delegation, the president of 56
the United States, and the news media of Ohio. 57