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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 54

2 WHEREAS, For southwest Illinois to remain a vibrant and
3 desired place to live and do business, the region's roadways
4 need to evolve to meet the needs of the area; and

5 WHEREAS, Connecting the major population centers of
6 Southern Illinois will allow people, goods, and agriculture
7 commodities to be quickly transported; and

8 WHEREAS, Four counties in southwestern Illinois (Jackson,
9 Monroe, Perry, and Randolph), numerous municipalities in the
10 area, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, local
11 businesses, labor unions, and agricultural organizations have
12 all voiced support for a four-lane, divided highway from
13 Waterloo to Murphysboro; and

14 WHEREAS, The proposed highway has come to be known as the
15 Southwest Illinois Connector; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
18 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Southwest Illinois Connector Task
19 Force is created in order to study the following:

20 (1) the cost, feasibility, and environmental impact of
21 the connector;

1 (2) the short- and long-term economic impact to the
2 region; and

3 (3) all options for funding the connector, both public
4 and private; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Southwest Illinois Connector Task Force
6 shall consist of the following members:

7 (1) the President of the Senate, or his designee;

8 (2) the Speaker of the House, or his designee;

9 (3) the Minority Leader of the Senate, or his designee;

10 (4) the Minority Leader of the House of
11 Representatives, or his designee;

12 (5) the Secretary of Transportation, or his or her
13 designee;

14 (6) a representative of Randolph County appointed by
15 the Chairman of the Randolph County Board of Commissioners;

16 (7) a representative of Perry County appointed by the
17 Chairman of the Perry County Board of Commissioners;

18 (8) a representative of Jackson County appointed by the
19 Chairman of the Jackson County Board;

20 (9) a representative of Monroe County appointed by the
21 Chairman of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners;

22 (10) a representative of an organization representing
23 the Illinois agricultural industry appointed by its
24 President;

25 (11) a representative of Southern Illinois University

1 Carbondale appointed by its Chancellor;

2 (12) the president of a statewide labor federation
3 representing more than one international union, or his or
4 her designee;

5 (13) a representative of the Kaskaskia Regional Port
6 District appointed by its Chairman;

7 (14) a representative of an organization representing
8 municipalities in Illinois appointed by its President; and

9 (15) a representative of an organization representing
10 realtors in Illinois appointed by its President; and be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That the Task Force members shall select a
13 Chairperson from among themselves; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That members of the Southwest Illinois Connector
15 Task Force shall serve with no compensation; the Illinois
16 Department of Transportation shall make all Department
17 information available to the Task Force and provide expertise
18 as needed and available; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Southwest Illinois Connector Task Force
20 shall meet a minimum of four times and make recommendations to
21 the General Assembly and the Illinois Department of
22 Transportation before December 31, 2018; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the report filed with the General Assembly
2 shall be filed with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk
3 of the House of Representatives in electronic form only, in the
4 manner that the Secretary and Clerk shall direct.