

SESSION OF 2009

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON  
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1618**

As Recommended by Senate Committee of the Whole

**Brief\***

SCR 1618 urges the Legislature to formulate and implement a comprehensive transportation plan by the 2010 legislative session. The resolution makes a number of findings, including these:

- The State has successfully completed the 1989 Comprehensive Highway Program and the 1999 Comprehensive Transportation Program;
- The Kansas population is projected to increase by 11 percent in the next 20 years, and vehicle and truck traffic are expected to increase by 44 percent and 97 percent respectively in the same time period;
- Transit ridership is on the rise, the importance of freight movement by railroads is increasing, the state's airports are in need of improvement, county and local roads are in need of repair, and intercity train travel is attracting more interest;
- Transportation revenues are projected to fall short of future transportation needs as documented in the Kansas Long Range Transportation Plan;
- Without additional revenues, the percentage of the State's highways rated in good condition will drop from 83 percent in 2008 to less than 50 percent in 2020;

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\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

- All 105 Kansas counties and more than 200 Kansas cities have formally adopted resolutions in support of a new comprehensive transportation plan;
- Funding of a new Comprehensive Transportation Program was not possible this year as a result of the weakened economy;
- The T-LINK Task Force, which held meetings across the State attended by more than 850 Kansans, concluded that a new transportation program is needed and widely supported, and it developed a set of recommendations for the State's transportation system;
- The Legislature's Special Committee on a New Comprehensive Transportation Plan held six meetings across the state, heard testimony from more than 120 Kansans, and concluded that a new transportation program is needed and supported; and
- Any new transportation plan should build on the work done by the T-LINK Task Force and the Special Committee on a New Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

The resolution further states that it would be resolved by the Legislature that it undertake efforts during the 2009 Legislative Interim to develop a plan to present to the 2010 Session of the Legislature and the Governor for funding a new-multi-year transportation plan that recognizes the needs of both rural and urban Kansas, supports the economic priorities of the State, and uses the strength of all modes of transportation to help stimulate the State's economic recovery.

## **Background**

The resolution was introduced by the Senate Committee of the Whole.

During the 2009 Session, HB 2382 and SB 323 were introduced on the topic of a new comprehensive transportation plan. The House Committee on Transportation held a hearing on HB 2382 and amended that bill; it had not been heard by the House Committee of the Whole when this resolution was adopted. The Senate Committee on Transportation held a hearing on SB 323.