

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 50

BY GANNON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT A COMMITTEE TO UNDERTAKE AND COMPLETE A STUDY OF I-84 AND OTHER RELATED TRANSPORTATION CORRIDORS IN IDAHO.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, Interstate Highway 84 is a vital highway that provides the primary vehicular travel connection between the Oregon state line and the Utah state line, passing through the Treasure Valley, the Magic Valley, and southeastern Idaho; and

WHEREAS, as many as 149,000 vehicles per day travel past the Five Mile Road overpass on I-84; and

WHEREAS, as the population of Idaho has increased, so too has vehicle traffic on I-84, resulting in significant traffic congestion during high-volume periods; and

WHEREAS, according to the Idaho Transportation Department, the volume of traffic on I-84 is projected to increase by 40% to 50% over the next 20 years between the Flying Wye interchange and the Franklin Road exit in Caldwell; and

WHEREAS, with increased traffic congestion there have been increased vehicle accidents, injuries, and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, traffic accidents and other emergency situations that occur on I-84 inevitably result in unsafe conditions and delays; and

WHEREAS, many commuters in the Treasure Valley currently experience delays and inconveniences during their daily commutes; and

WHEREAS, existing alternative roads near I-84 are limited in speed, number, and capacity, and alternative roads are becoming congested; and

WHEREAS, a beltway to the north or south of I-84 has been discussed as a potential alternative route; and

WHEREAS, enhancing Idahoans' options for vehicle travel and planning for future growth through the I-84 corridor between the Sand Hollow Road exit in Canyon County and the Blacks Creek Road exit in Ada County would reduce traffic accidents, address present and future congestion, and promote tourism and agribusiness, all of which are crucial to maintaining a healthy state economy; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no plan to address present traffic congestion, the impact of Highway 16 connecting to I-84, and future increases of the use of the I-84 corridor; and

WHEREAS, identifying alternative routes for vehicular travel would help ensure the safe and expedient movement of vehicles, materials, supplies, and people, thereby improving Idahoans' quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislative Council is autho-

1 rized to appoint a committee to undertake and complete a study of existing
2 transportation corridors, including I-84; potential alternate routes for
3 safe vehicular travel between the Sand Hollow Road exit and the Blacks Creek
4 Road exit on I-84, including a beltway; roads that are adjacent to or near
5 I-84; the economic impacts of traffic in the area of study; and related mat-
6 ters involving other highways and areas in Idaho.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Council shall determine the
8 number of legislators and membership from each house appointed to the com-
9 mittee and shall authorize the committee to receive input, advice, and as-
10 sistance from interested and affected parties who are not members of the Leg-
11 islature.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Council may authorize the
13 committee to appoint nonlegislative advisors with technical expertise with
14 regard to transportation infrastructure, civil engineering, legal informa-
15 tion and issues, and such other subjects as the committee deems necessary or
16 advisable for the committee to efficiently conduct and complete its busi-
17 ness.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any nonlegislative advisors to the commit-
19 tee are not members of the committee, shall not be reimbursed from legisla-
20 tive funds for per diem, mileage, or other expenses, and shall not have vot-
21 ing privileges regarding the committee's recommendations or proposed legis-
22 lation.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall report its findings,
24 recommendations, and proposed legislation, if any, to the First Regular
25 Session of the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature.