

House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
 requesting Congress to pass House Resolution 3339,
 creating a National Infrastructure Bank to finance
 urgently needed infrastructure projects.

WHEREAS, the American Society of Civil Engineers gave the
 United States a grade of C- in its America's Infrastructure
 Report Card 2021 and reported that more than \$4.5 trillion would
 be needed to restore the nation's infrastructure to a state of
 good repair, yet less than half of that amount is currently
 funded and the remainder is inadequately funded, and

WHEREAS, new 21st century projects are also unfunded, and

WHEREAS, 13 percent of Florida's roads are in poor
 condition, costing drivers in Florida roughly \$425 per year to
 drive in the state, and 15 percent of Florida's bridges are at
 least 50 years old and 2.9 percent are rated structurally
 deficient, and

WHEREAS, Florida has serious water infrastructure issues
 and the state's drinking water needs total an estimated \$21.9
 billion, wastewater needs are estimated to total \$18.4 billion,
 and stormwater management needs are estimated to be \$1.1
 billion, and

WHEREAS, the National Low Income Housing Coalition reports
 a shortage of 384,743 affordable rental homes available for

26 extremely low-income renters, and Florida International
27 University in its reports titled "Miami's Housing Affordability
28 Crisis" has documented that six in 10 employed adult residents
29 of Greater Miami spend more than 30 percent of their incomes on
30 housing, which is the highest rate of any large metro area in
31 the nation, and

32 WHEREAS, on May 19, 2021, Congress introduced House
33 Resolution 3339 (HR 3339), the National Infrastructure Bank Act
34 of 2021, which will create a new \$5 trillion national
35 infrastructure bank to invest in infrastructure projects, and

36 WHEREAS, the National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2021 would
37 require no new federal spending and no new federal taxes and
38 would be capitalized by repurposing existing Treasury debt, as
39 was done previously in this country's history, and

40 WHEREAS, the National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2021 would
41 help finance Florida's infrastructure in partnership with the
42 state, county, and other local governments, and

43 WHEREAS, the National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2021 would
44 build infrastructure, create jobs in rural and urban
45 communities, end poverty, bring broadband connectivity into
46 every corner of the state regardless of cost, fix all roads not
47 covered by Congress, and would finance new rail lines, including
48 high speed rail, connecting Florida both north-south and east-
49 west to the southeast and beyond, and

50 WHEREAS, the National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2021 would
 51 further develop Florida's ports, build 7 million affordable
 52 housing units in the nation, including in Florida, and hire and
 53 train people who lost their jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic
 54 and employ them in high-paying jobs to build necessary
 55 infrastructure, and

56 WHEREAS, the National Infrastructure Bank is modeled on
 57 previous banks that helped build much of this nation's
 58 infrastructure under Presidents George Washington, James
 59 Madison, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, the last
 60 president who helped bring this country out of the Depression
 61 and win World War II, and

62 WHEREAS, the National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2021 would
 63 create 25 million new jobs, mandate large-scale minority hiring,
 64 pay Davis-Bacon wages, include Buy American provisions, and
 65 provide disadvantaged business enterprises with significant
 66 disbursements, and

67 WHEREAS, according to experts, the National Infrastructure
 68 Bank Act of 2021 would grow the economy by 5 percent per year as
 69 did its predecessors, and

70 WHEREAS, 21 state legislatures have introduced or passed
 71 resolutions in support of HR 3339, as have county and city
 72 councils, including the Alachua Board of County Commissioners,
 73 the Gainesville City Commission, and the Northern Central
 74 Florida Regional Planning Council, and

75 WHEREAS, national organizations have also passed
 76 resolutions endorsing HR 3339, including the Public Banking
 77 Institute, the National Congress of Black Women, the National
 78 Association of Counties, the US High Speed Rail Association, the
 79 National Latino Farmers and Ranchers, the American Sustainable
 80 Business Council, the National Association of Minority
 81 Contractors, the National Federation of Federal Employees, as
 82 well as many community and labor organizations, NOW, THEREFORE,

83
 84 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
 85 Florida:

86
 87 That the United States Congress is requested to pass House
 88 Resolution 3339, the National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2021,
 89 creating a National Infrastructure Bank to finance urgently
 90 needed infrastructure projects.

91 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
 92 presented to the President of the United States, to the
 93 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
 94 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
 95 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.