

1.1 A resolution

1.2 memorializing the President and Congress to take early action on the weakened  
1.3 economy to promote a healthy Minnesota economy.

1.4 WHEREAS, leaders of the National Governors Association (NGA) and the National  
1.5 Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) have called on the new administration and Congress to  
1.6 take early action on the severely weakened economy, mired in what is estimated to be the most  
1.7 serious economic downturn in 30 years, that is causing high unemployment and accompanying  
1.8 painful economic hardship for American companies, their employees, and families, including  
1.9 working families in Minnesota, where the unemployment rate is escalating; and

1.10 WHEREAS, Congress is drafting economic recovery legislation for the President's  
1.11 signature as soon as possible; and

1.12 WHEREAS, this legislation is expected to channel billions of dollars in state block grants  
1.13 to help economically stressed states take immediate action to initiate significant job creation  
1.14 through massive public works investments in rebuilding our nation's aging infrastructure,  
1.15 including: roads and accompanying guardrails, utility poles, rest areas, maintenance buildings,  
1.16 highway bridges, energy pipelines, rail and air transportation networks, electrical grid expansion,  
1.17 water and sewerage improvements, environmentally friendly nonresidential renovation, and  
1.18 new construction of state-of-the-art schools and hospitals, as well as other vital infrastructure  
1.19 needs; and

1.20 WHEREAS, modernizing and upgrading Minnesota's statewide infrastructure system  
1.21 will improve the overall quality of life for all Minnesota families, create significant new job  
1.22 opportunities and economic growth, and help revitalize and advance Minnesota's critically  
1.23 important manufacturing sector; and

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2.1 WHEREAS, Minnesota's vital manufacturing industries are huge purchasers of state goods  
2.2 and services, including: health care, education and training, utility-generated electricity, natural  
2.3 gas, and alternative fuels, as well as advanced technology to enhance competitiveness and  
2.4 environmental quality; and

2.5 WHEREAS, Minnesota's extensive mineral and agricultural resources, and its advancement  
2.6 of new renewable technologies, present enormous opportunities for the state to become a leading  
2.7 producer and supplier and to help fuel Minnesota's modern manufacturing sector compete in a  
2.8 global environment; NOW, THEREFORE,

2.9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it recognizes the  
2.10 significant opportunities for growth in the state and memorializes the President of the United  
2.11 States and members of the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate to  
2.12 work cooperatively to ensure that manufacturing businesses located in the United States, and their  
2.13 employees, be the primary beneficiaries of economic relief legislation designed to stimulate the  
2.14 economy and create jobs throughout the United States, and that any legislation recognize that it  
2.15 is critically important to job creation and job retention that federal and state Buy American  
2.16 and Domestic Content requirements be observed in utilizing public funds for investment in our  
2.17 nation's aging infrastructure.

2.18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota is  
2.19 directed to prepare copies of this memorial and transmit them to the President of the United States  
2.20 and Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.