

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 145 Session of  
2023

INTRODUCED BY BOSCOLA, COSTA, HUGHES, TARTAGLIONE, SCHWANK,  
BREWSTER, CAPPELLETTI, DILLON AND KANE, JULY 17, 2023

REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, JULY 17, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to establish the  
2 National Infrastructure Bank.

3 WHEREAS, In 2021, the American Society of Civil Engineers  
4 (ASCE) reported a grade of C- for the current state of  
5 infrastructure in the United States, and ASCE estimated more  
6 than \$6 trillion is needed to restore the nation's  
7 infrastructure to a state of good repair; and

8 WHEREAS, More than \$2 trillion in infrastructure projects are  
9 currently unfunded, the remainder is inadequately funded and new  
10 21st century projects remain unfunded; and

11 WHEREAS, The 2022 ASCE report card grades Pennsylvania C- in  
12 15 categories of basic infrastructure, including the following  
13 assessments:

14 (1) over the next 10 years, Pennsylvania's public water  
15 systems, which currently continue to contain substantial  
16 amounts of lead service lines as well as per- and  
17 polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), are projected to have a  
18 \$10.2 billion funding gap, not including funding from recent

1 Federal programs;

2 (2) Pennsylvania has the ninth largest bridge inventory,  
3 including the second highest number of poor condition  
4 bridges, in the nation, which will require a minimum of \$18  
5 billion annually to maintain;

6 (3) the Commonwealth has a funding gap of \$8.4 billion  
7 over the next 10 years that is needed to repair existing  
8 wastewater systems and upgrade current systems to meet  
9 regulatory requirements;

10 (4) \$2 billion in storm water assets have reached the  
11 end of their useful life and require \$6.7 billion for storm  
12 water projects over the next three to five years;

13 (5) transit funding shortfalls include \$4.6 billion for  
14 the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transit Authority (SEPTA)  
15 capital needs and \$175 million for capital improvements at  
16 the Port Authority of Allegheny County, and other systems  
17 require additional funding; and

18 (6) Pennsylvania has a shortage of at least 267,000  
19 available and affordable homes for extremely low-income  
20 renters;

21 and

22 WHEREAS, Recently, the "National Infrastructure Bank Act" was  
23 introduced in the United States House of Representatives (H.R.  
24 4052, 118th Congress 2023 - 2024) to establish the National  
25 Infrastructure Bank (NIB); and

26 WHEREAS, The proposed \$5 trillion bank would have  
27 authorization to invest only in infrastructure projects, be  
28 capitalized by existing Treasury debt and require no new Federal  
29 spending or the imposition of new taxes; and

30 WHEREAS, The NIB will assist in financing all of the

1 infrastructure of Pennsylvania, working in partnership with the  
2 State and local governments, both rural and urban; and

3 WHEREAS, The NIB is modeled on previous banks that assisted  
4 in building much of our infrastructure under Presidents George  
5 Washington, James Madison, Abraham Lincoln and Franklin D.  
6 Roosevelt; and

7 WHEREAS, The last Federal bank with the similar objective of  
8 funding infrastructure in the United States helped bring the  
9 country out of the Depression and our victory in World War II;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The NIB will create 25 million new jobs, pay  
12 prevailing wages and include "Buy America" provisions; and

13 WHEREAS, Through the NIB, disadvantaged business enterprises  
14 will receive significant disbursements; and

15 WHEREAS, H.R. 4052 mandates large-scale minority hiring and  
16 requires the dramatic expansion of small and medium-size  
17 businesses, thereby increasing revenues into state and local  
18 governments; and

19 WHEREAS, As its predecessors did, and according to experts,  
20 the NIB will grow the Federal economy by 5% per year; and

21 WHEREAS, Twenty-six state legislatures have introduced or  
22 passed resolutions of support, as have county and city councils;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, National endorsements include the:

25 (1) National Black Caucus of State Legislators;

26 (2) National Asian-Pacific American Caucus of State  
27 Legislators;

28 (3) Council of State Governments-East Region;

29 (4) National Association of Development Organizations -  
30 all 541 Regional Planning Commissions;

1 (5) National Association of Counties; and  
2 (6) United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania endorsements include:

5 (1) The City of Pittsburgh;

6 (2) The City of Philadelphia;

7 (3) The City of Allentown;

8 (4) The City of Lancaster;

9 (5) Northampton County;

10 (6) Allegheny County; and

11 (7) The Northern Tier Central Labor Council;

12 therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
14 urge the Congress of the United States to establish the National  
15 Infrastructure Bank; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
17 call upon the Congress of the United States to pass H.R. 4052,  
18 to create the National Infrastructure Bank to finance urgently  
19 needed infrastructure projects; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
21 the President of the United States, the presiding officers of  
22 each house of Congress and each member of Congress from  
23 Pennsylvania.