

1996 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 216

Requesting the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Department of Transportation to proceed expeditiously with the Trans-America Corridor Study and its integration with the Coalfields Expressway.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 1996
Agreed to by the Senate, March 6, 1996

WHEREAS, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) provides for the construction of the Coalfields Expressway from Beckley, West Virginia, to the Virginia state line at Grundy; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board has voted to include preliminary engineering funds to determine methods of development of the Coalfields Expressway in the Virginia six-year highway construction plan, with the Expressway meeting the Virginia state line along the Route 83 corridor east of Grundy and continuing through Buchanan and Dickenson Counties to Pound, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, construction of the Coalfields Expressway will significantly contribute to the improvement of transportation in Southwest Virginia, assist in regional economic development, and generally enhance highway safety; and

WHEREAS, the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995, signed into law on November 28, 1995, also included the proposed I-73 as part of the National Highway System in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, recently passed federal legislation has designated the Coalfields Expressway as a component of the National Highway System, making the project eligible for federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the Coalfields Expressway will become an integral part of the TransAmerica corridor, providing a direct connection between the east and west coasts of the United States; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Department of Transportation be requested to proceed expeditiously with the Trans-America Corridor Study and its integration with the Coalfields Expressway and coordinate this study with the states of Kentucky and West Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Department of Transportation be urged to proceed expeditiously with the planning and completion of the proposed I-73 project; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Secretary of Transportation, the Commonwealth Transportation Commissioner, and the members of the Commonwealth Transportation Board that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly in this matter.

ENROLLED

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