

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 108

BY WISE

1 A Concurrent Resolution relating to the International  
2 NAFTA Superhighway and requesting the Director of  
3 the State Department of Transportation to join the  
4 I-35 Corridor Coalition and requesting private  
5 matching moneys to be solicited for payment of  
6 membership fees.

7 WHEREAS, the North American Free Trade Agreement  
8 (NAFTA) may create the largest market for goods and  
9 services in the world, a \$6.5 trillion market  
10 consisting of 370 million people; and

11 WHEREAS, NAFTA may create 200,000 additional high-  
12 wage jobs related to exports to Mexico by the end of  
13 this year; and

14 WHEREAS, Interstate Highway 35 (I-35) is a central  
15 land artery linking Canada, the United States, and  
16 Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, I-35 provides access to all major  
18 interstate routes extending from east to west across  
19 the United States; and

20 WHEREAS, capacity improvements are vital to keep I-  
21 35 current with the demands placed on it as the north-  
22 south artery that links the three NAFTA partners; and

23 WHEREAS, I-35 has been designated as the  
24 International NAFTA Superhighway by the United States  
25 Congress; and

26 WHEREAS, this designation will lead to  
27 identification and elimination of barriers to  
28 international commerce and traffic, enhanced funding  
29  
30

HR 108

1 for upgrading capacity and safety, and reduced  
2 congestion; and

3 WHEREAS, public investment in transportation  
4 infrastructure historically yields direct benefits to  
5 the economy in the form of private-sector investment,  
6 which is the most desirable and long-lasting benefit  
7 of all; and

8 WHEREAS, this designation will enhance this state's  
9 position as a national hub for transportation-  
10 sensitive industries; and

11 WHEREAS, the I-35 Corridor Coalition was formed to  
12 promote the development of the I-35 Corridor into an  
13 International NAFTA Superhighway, including the use of  
14 modern technologies and improved transportation  
15 infrastructure to facilitate the movement of goods  
16 between countries; and

17 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to the State of  
18 Iowa to join the I-35 Corridor Coalition; and

19 WHEREAS, the membership fees for joining the I-35  
20 Corridor Coalition are \$150,000 per year for three  
21 years; NOW THEREFORE,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE  
23 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Director of the State  
24 Department of Transportation is requested to seek  
25 private donations in the amount of \$100,000 per year  
26 for three years to match the state's contribution of  
27 \$50,000 per year for three years to equal the  
28 \$150,000-per-year-for-three-years, I-35-Corridor-  
29 Coalition membership fee.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That once private donations

1 in the appropriate amount are obtained, the Director  
2 of the State Department of Transportation is requested  
3 to join the I-35 Corridor Coalition.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this  
5 resolution be sent to the Governor and to the Director  
6 of the State Department of Transportation.

7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30