

KANSAS SENATE

PAUL BUD BURKE
SENATE PRESIDENT

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April 2, 1996

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PAST PRESIDENT:
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE
LEGISLATURES
GOVERNING BOARD AND
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

The Honorable Robert Dole, U.S. Senator
Senate Majority Leader
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20610

Dear Senator Dole:

Enclosed is an enrolled copy of Senate Resolution No. 1828, adopted by the Kansas Senate on March 22, 1996.

I strongly support efforts to ease and enhance the movement of goods, services and people among the NAFTA partners. The I-35 corridor from Laredo, Texas to Duluth, Minnesota would greatly enhance those efforts and I believe designating I-35 as a "High Priority Corridor" in the National Highway System would assist transcontinental trade.

Your support is greatly appreciated and I join you in your effort to designate an international trade corridor connecting Mexico, the United States and Canada, including I-35 in that corridor, and seek additional federal funds to allow for appropriate technological and physical improvements.

*Let me know
what you
want me to
do to help
the campaign.*

PBB/ksr

Enclosure

Sincerely,

Paul Bud Burke
Senate President

STATE OF KANSAS

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1828

A RESOLUTION supporting efforts to designate I-35 as an international corridor.

WHEREAS, A superior transportation system and ability to move goods and people have been a top priority for the state of Kansas since it began as a United States territory; and

WHEREAS, The geographic location of the state of Kansas in the center of the United States and North America has made it a strategically important crossroad for interstate movement of goods and people; and

WHEREAS, Canada and Mexico are the largest trading partners for Kansas, with exports to Mexico growing from \$125 million in 1987 to \$391 million in 1994, and forecasted exports to exceed \$800 million by the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, United States exports to Mexico have increased four-fold since 1986 and are expected to increase more than 100% during the 1995-2000 period; and

WHEREAS, More than 6,000 Kansas jobs are directly related to trade with Mexico; and

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Treasury has recently signed a memorandum of understanding to create prototype customs facilities at the ports of Laredo, Texas, and Kansas City to ease import and export of goods; and

WHEREAS, The I-35 corridor includes air, rail and highway transportation modes, uniquely enhancing freight assets in Kansas that handle among the highest amounts in the United States; and

WHEREAS, More than one-half the population of the state of Kansas resides in cities traversed by I-35, including its two largest urban areas in Wichita and Kansas City; and

WHEREAS, I-35 already exists and was identified as a "High Priority Corridor" in the 1995 National Highway System legislation passed by the United States Congress and is the only transcontinental interstate with direct access to every east-west interstate in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Designation of the I-35 corridor as an international corridor places Kansas among a small group of states at the forefront of new highway design and transportation technology; and

WHEREAS, Other important corridors in Kansas would be enhanced and made more viable by a continental focus on the international component of the I-35 corridor and related transportation system; and

WHEREAS, Federal designation of an international corridor will make other investments, public and private, more obvious, with potential billions of dollars at stake; and

WHEREAS, This is an important issue in which Kansas needs to be involved to help position it for the future and to remain a vital crossroad for national and international trade: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That the Kansas Senate supports efforts to designate I-35 as an international corridor and commends the efforts of the Kansas I-35 Coalition in helping to make such a vision a reality. It also supports new federal funding for such enhancements as may be necessary for the state of Kansas to obtain maximum benefit from this vital corridor.

Senate Resolution No. 1828 was sponsored by Senator Paul Bud Burke.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

March 22, 1996

Paul E. Burke Jr.
President of the Senate
Pat Saville
Secretary of the Senate.