

**BEFORE THE
FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02**

In the Matter of: A RESOLUTION OF THE FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS ENDORSING
AND SUPPORTING HR3339 CREATING A NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK

Whereas, The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) stated in its 2021 report card that the United States received a grade of C- regarding the current state of infrastructure and that more than \$6 trillion dollars would be needed to restore the nation's infrastructure to a state of good repair. Approximately \$2.5 trillion dollars is currently not funded, and the remainder is inadequately funded. New, 21st century projects are unfunded; and,

Whereas, ASCE rated California roads D. Driving on deficient roads costs Californians \$61 billion annually. California roads are among the worst in the nation, ranking 49th according to US News & World Report Ranking. and,

Whereas, California bridges are rated C-. Approximately 50% of bridges in the state have exceeded their design life; California has the second largest percentage of "functionally obsolete" (FO) bridges in the nation. Over 7% of California's bridges are structurally deficient; and,

Whereas, storm water infrastructure is rated D+ and dams are rated C-. Over half of California's 1,476 state, federal and locally owned dams are considered high-hazard dams. Approximately 70% of the dams are greater than 50 years old; and,

Whereas, California levees are rated D. A capital investment of \$45 billion is needed to rehabilitate and improve California's levees; and,

Whereas, California needs a long-term financing for the High-Speed Rail System, and large-scale water projects to combat drought; and,

Whereas, Congress introduced HR 3339, the National Infrastructure Bank Act, to create a new National Infrastructure Bank (NIB). This legislation creates a \$5 trillion bank, authorized to invest in infrastructure projects only. It would require no new federal spending and no new federal taxes; and,

Whereas, the NIB is modeled on previous banks which helped build much of our infrastructure under Presidents George Washington, James Madison, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt. The last such bank helped bring us out of the Depression, build much of California's infrastructure, and win WWII; and,

Whereas, the new National Infrastructure Bank will create 25 million new jobs, pay Davis-Bacon wages and include Buy America provisions. Disadvantaged

Business Enterprises will receive significant disbursements, large-scale minority hiring is a mandate of the NIB, and priority will be given to communities with long-term poverty. According to experts, the Bank will grow the economy by 5% per year as did its predecessors; and

Whereas, many organizations have issued endorsements. Twenty-five state legislatures have introduced or passed resolutions of support. The California Legislature has introduced a resolution to Congress in support of HR 3339. Many city councils have passed resolutions including: Philadelphia, Toledo, Anchorage AK, Providence RI, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Cleveland, and more. Other endorsements include: The National Black Caucus of State Legislators, The National Association of Development Organizations (541 regional planning commissions); The Public Banking Institute, The National Congress of Black Women, the National Association of Counties, the US High Speed Rail Association, the National Latino Farmers and Ranchers Trade Association, The American Sustainable Business Council, the National Association of Minority Contractors, The United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters International Union;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
2. Fresno Council of Governments hereby calls upon the United States Congress to pass H.R. 3339, to create a National Infrastructure Bank to finance urgently needed infrastructure projects.
3. Copies of this resolution shall be transmitted by the Clerk to the California Delegation to Congress that represents the Fresno region, the Governor, and the President of the United States.

THE FORGOING RESOLUTION was duly approved by Fresno Council of Governments at a regular meeting held on January 26, 2023, by the following votes:

AYES: Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Selma.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Fresno City, Orange Cove, Sanger, Fresno County.

ATTEST: None

Signed: _____



Alma Beltran, Chair

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution of the Fresno Council of Governments duly adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 26th day of January, 2023.

Signed: _____



Tony Boren, Executive Director