

Jeff Kessler on NIB Democratic US Senate Debate April 24 2026

Jeff Kessler 00:00

I will introduce and support a bill that will create a national infrastructure bank. It is a bill that's been supported by the Democrat National Committee, Progressive Democrats of America, and other groups. It is modeled, basically, after the FDR model after the Great Depression, when we needed to rebuild our entire infrastructure.

Jeff Kessler 00:24

Everywhere you look in our state, you've got water, sewage, roads, rail, everything's 100 years old and it's shot. It's time we invest in the people of our state and the infrastructure. And guess what that will do? It would cost \$20 billion to fix all the infrastructure just for water in our state. \$20 billion.

Jeff Kessler 00:49

You know what our state general revenue budget is? Five billion. So we would have to fix it. It would take four years and spend every single penny we have in the budget. That can't happen. No money for schools, no money for this, no money for any of the other absolute necessary needs we need. Law enforcement, corrections, social services. It's not going to happen. We need a massive influx of federal money to create that source

Jeff Kessler 01:17

that will make that money available with a emphasis on rural communities that have been left behind in the past. That's us. That's why we do it. Not only does that rebuild our country, rebuild our infrastructure, it creates jobs. Guess what? Those things don't, they get built by local labor with Davis-Bacon wages. And you know what happens when local labor works? Those monies multiply through your community.

Jeff Kessler 01:48

They create other jobs. It builds, that's how I'm telling you, I believe you build our nation and our economy by the bottom and the middle up by investing in our infrastructure and our people. And it can be done. It needs to be done.