

SESSION OF 2005

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5014**

As Recommended by House Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

HCR 5014 would urge the United States Congress to enact a multi-year reauthorization of federal-aid highway, public transit, safety and motor carrier programs. The resolution states that:

- a well-functioning transportation system is critical to the security, productivity, and global competitiveness of the United States;
- the legislation to reauthorize federal-aid highway, public transit, safety, and motor carrier programs is nearly a year and a half overdue;
- Kansas is in the middle of a ten-year Comprehensive Transportation Program (CTP) that depends on federal funding as a critical financing component;
- the lack of an adequately funded long-term reauthorization bill and the piecemeal fashion in which funding has been distributed under the short term extensions negatively impacts numerous local transportation programs that depend on federal funding; and
- further delay will increase the costs of projects and will dilute the purchasing power of federal transportation dollars.

HCR 5014 also would direct the Secretary of State to send enrolled copies of the resolution to the President of the United States, the

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation, and to each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.

Background

At a hearing before the House Transportation Committee, the Director of Planning and Development testified in favor the resolution. He noted, among other things, that:

- the Transportation Equity Act for the 21th Century (TEA-21) has been extended six times in order to authorize federal funds for the states;
- the current extension expires May 31, 2005;
- the U.S. House and Senate both passed multi-year authorizing legislation in 2004 but could not agree in Conference Committee prior to adjournment for the year;
- with the new 109th Congress beginning in 2005, the reauthorizing legislation had to be reintroduced; and
- the U.S. House passed its version of the reauthorization bill March 10, 2005, but the Senate has not acted on the bill.

There were no conferees who presented testimony against the resolution.