

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Joint House Resolution

J.R.H. 11

Offered by Representatives Cole of Hartford, Austin of Colchester, Berbeco of Winooski, Brady of Williston, Burke of Brattleboro, Carris Duncan of Whitingham, Chapin of East Montpelier, Charlton of Chester, Cooper of Pownal, Critchlow of Colchester, Goldman of Rockingham, Gregoire of Fairfield, Headrick of Burlington, Logan of Burlington, McGill of Bridport, Morrow of Weston, Nugent of South Burlington, Priestley of Bradford, Sabilia of Dover, Stevens of Waterbury, Sweeney of Shelburne, Tomlinson of Winooski, and Wells of Brownington

House joint resolution strongly urging Congress to enact H.R. 5356, The “National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2025”

Whereas, in 2025, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) awarded the nation’s infrastructure a grade of C, finding that expenditures of \$9,139,000,000,000.00 (not an inflation-adjusted figure) were required on or before the year 2033 to satisfy these shortfalls, and

Whereas, in 2023, ASCE assigned Vermont infrastructure an overall grade of C and specifically assigned grades of C for drinking water, C+ for solid waste, C- for stormwater, D+ for wastewater, C+ for roads, and C for dams, and

Whereas, in 2025, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) projected that at current levels of investment, on or before 2031, more than 60 percent of the State’s roads are expected to lapse into either poor or very poor condition, and, on or before 2035, without increased State investment, the condition of Vermont’s roads will experience further deterioration, and

Whereas, according to the *2025 State of Homelessness in Vermont Report*, as of June 2025, there were at least 4,588 unhoused Vermonters, a 200 percent surge since 2020, representing one of the highest per capita rates in the nation, a statistic attributed in part to the lack of affordable housing, and

Whereas, in September 2025, U.S. Representative Danny K. Davis of Illinois, along with other members of the U.S. House of Representatives, introduced H.R. 5356, The “National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2025” to create “a United States public deposit bank [that] would provide direct loans and other financing of up to \$5,000,000,000,000.00 for qualifying infrastructure projects without requiring additional Federal taxes or deficits,” and

Whereas, the proposed National Infrastructure Bank (NIB) is modeled on the late 18th– and early 19th–century First and Second Banks of the United States, the subsequent national banking system that President Lincoln instituted, and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation created during the Great Depression era, and

Whereas, as proposed in H.R. 5356, NIB-funded projects would pay Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wages, adhere to Buy America provisions, and provide significant financial assistance to businesses that minorities, women, or disadvantaged persons own, and

Whereas, the intent of establishing the NIB is to provide infrastructure financing nationwide, in addition to existing federal and state money, which the ASCE finds inadequate to meet the nation's infrastructure needs, and

Whereas, the types of projects that would be covered include broadband buildout; repairing roads and bridges; renovating water systems, including removal of lead service lines; constructing affordable housing; and other similar projects, and

Whereas, a number of state legislatures and local government bodies across the country have introduced or passed resolutions in support of congressional enactment of H.R. 5356, and

Whereas, among the organizational endorsements in support of H.R. 5356 are the National Association of Counties; the Council of State Governments East, which includes Vermont; the National Black Caucus of State Legislators; the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators; the National Asian Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators; the U.S. High Speed Rail Association; the American Sustainable Business Council; and the United Association representing plumbers and steamfitters, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly strongly urges Congress to enact H.R. 5356, The "National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2025," *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Philip B. Scott, President Donald J. Trump, and the Vermont Congressional Delegation.