

TABLED
RESOLUTION NO. 1999-18

RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENACT LEGISLATION TO SHARE THE INCREASE IN FEDERAL HIGHWAY FUNDS RECEIVED BY TENNESSEE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BY INCREASING STATE-AID FUNDS TO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS.

WHEREAS, due to changes in the distribution of federal highway monies under the TEA-21 program, the Tennessee Department of Transportation is estimated to receive approximately 76 million dollars more in federal funds than was budgeted for this fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 84,000 miles of public highways, streets and roads in the State of Tennessee, with only 14,000 miles, or 17%, of these publicly maintained roadways being maintained by the State of Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, local governments in the State of Tennessee shoulder a great share of the burden of keeping our transportation network safe and convenient for citizens of this State with county governments maintaining 54,000 miles, or over 64% of public highways, streets and roads, and cities maintaining 15,000 miles or 18% of public highways, streets and roads; and

WHEREAS, there are in excess of 19,000 bridges in the State of Tennessee many of which are currently substandard, with the Department of Transportation maintaining 7,300 of which 1,682 or 23% are substandard and local governments maintaining 12,000 with almost 5,000, or 41%, being substandard; and

WHEREAS, there are 4,300 bridges over the ten-ton weight limit which are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete, and many of the small bridge repair and replacement projects have been completed meaning most of the bridges that now need replacement will cost \$300,000 to \$400,000 each; and

WHEREAS, county governments in the State of Tennessee are receiving 17.1 million dollars for state-aid roads, which is the same amount of funds they received in fiscal year 1983-84 and county governments are receiving only 9.6 million dollars in bridge construction funds from the state for fiscal year 1998-99 which is less than half of the 20 million dollars received fifteen years ago for fiscal year 1983-84; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Weakley County, meeting in regular session on the 21st day of September 1998, that the Tennessee General Assembly is strongly urged to increase level of state-aid funds by 32.9 million dollars to the level of 50 million dollars in the fiscal year 1999-2000 state budget in order to assist local governments of this State in making public roadways and bridges safe.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the county clerk shall mail certified copies of this resolution to the member of the Tennessee General Assembly representing the people of Weakley County.

Pursuant To The Rules Of The Commission, This Resolution Is Sponsored By The Following Members Of The Weakley County Board Of County Commissioners:

SPONSORED BY:

Bennie Castleman

ACKNOWLEDGED AND APPROVED:

George B. Bussard
Chairman, Public Works Committee

Motion made by _____ that the foregoing resolution be adopted:
Motion seconded by _____.

Upon being put to a roll call vote, Motion _____ by a vote of _____ Yeas, _____ Nays,
_____ Passed and _____ Absent.

Attested:

Pat Scarborough, County Clerk

SPONSORED BY:

Roger Stewart

ACKNOWLEDGED AND APPROVED:

John A. Vincent
Chairman, Legislative Committee

Approved:

Ron Gifford, County Executive

THIS THE 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1998.