

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 54

BY SHOMSHOR

A Resolution declaring support for Amtrak.

WHEREAS, Amtrak, the national railroad passenger corporation providing national railroad passenger service, is energy efficient and environmentally beneficial; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak provides mobility to citizens of many smaller communities not well served by air and bus services and to those persons with medical conditions which prevent them from traveling by air; and

WHEREAS, according to Amtrak, Amtrak ridership in Iowa has increased from 47,442 in 2003 to 54,365 in 2004; and

WHEREAS, according to Amtrak, during 2004, Amtrak carried over 25 million passengers nationwide, representing an increase of over 4.3 percent compared to 2003; and

WHEREAS, in service to those 25 million passengers, Amtrak serves over 500 stations in 46 states on 22,000 miles of track with approximately 20,000 employees, contributing strongly to local and regional economies; and

WHEREAS, the Amtrak 2004 budget represented only 2 percent of the United States Department of Transportation's \$59 billion budget, compared to the balance for highway and airline subsidies; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

HR 54

1 That the President of the United States and the
2 Congress are urged to do the following:

- 3 1. Maintain a strong level of Amtrak funding; and
4 2. Include a strong Amtrak system in all plans for
5 the national transportation system; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
7 resolution be sent to the President of the United
8 States, the President of the United States Senate, the
9 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
10 and members of Iowa's congressional delegation.

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