

House Resolution No. 6066

By Committee on Transportation

3-20

1 A RESOLUTION urging the preservation of existing and development of
2 additional passenger rail service in Kansas.

3 WHEREAS, Passenger rail service has transported people into,
4 through and out of southwest Kansas since the 1800s; and

5 WHEREAS, Since 1971, Amtrak has provided passenger rail service
6 on its Southwest Chief cross-continental rail line connecting Chicago and
7 Los Angeles, the entire state and has two daily stops in Kansas City,
8 Lawrence, Topeka, Newton, Hutchinson, Dodge City and Garden City;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The communities included on the Southwest Chief line
11 from Newton to Lamy, New Mexico have entered into a partnership
12 called the Southwest Chief Rural Rail Partnership and together this
13 partnership has worked for three years to build cooperation among the
14 three state governments, the communities along the route, Burlington
15 Northern Santa Fe and Amtrak to preserve one of the most picturesque
16 and historic passenger rail lines in the United States; and

17 WHEREAS, Since 2008, Kansans interested in developing passenger
18 rail from Kansas City to Dallas have worked with partners in Oklahoma
19 and Texas to develop the Heartland Flyer; and

20 WHEREAS, The Northern Flyer Alliance represents the portion of
21 that regional passenger rail service in Kansas; and

22 WHEREAS, The benefits of preserving and developing the passenger
23 rail line have been shown through the cooperation of the Kansas
24 Department of Transportation in their commitment to federal grants for
25 both projects; and

26 WHEREAS, Preserving existing and developing additional passenger
27 rail service is in the best economic interest of Kansas: Now therefore,

28 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:*
29 That we urge the preservation of existing and development of additional
30 passenger rail service in Kansas; and

31 *Be it further resolved:* That the Chief Clerk of the House of
32 Representatives shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to the
33 Secretary of Transportation for the State of Kansas.