

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 104

BY SENATOR THOMPSON

A RESOLUTION

To express support for the development of passenger rail services along the Interstate 20 corridor in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas are seeking to coordinate their efforts in order to facilitate passenger rail services along the Interstate 20 corridor between Marshall, Texas and Meridian, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, federal funds originally allocated to the state of Texas are now available for use in connection with rail infrastructure for the entire Interstate 20 corridor between Marshall, Texas and Meridian, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the state of Texas indicated a willingness to use a portion of those funds for the entire Interstate 20 corridor; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak analyzed the route and determined that passenger rail connectivity along the Interstate 20 corridor will not require an annual operating subsidy; and

WHEREAS, passenger rail services along the Interstate 20 corridor, home to several public institutions of higher education, will benefit the people of Louisiana by allowing greater mobility and expanding potential labor and tourism markets access to the region; and

WHEREAS, passenger rail services will improve access between North Louisiana and major regional economic and transportation centers in Dallas, Texas and Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, members of the Louisiana congressional delegation are encouraged to work in conjunction with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the state transportation agencies of Texas and Mississippi to coordinate development of passenger rail services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express support for the development of passenger rail services along the Interstate 20 corridor in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the members of the Louisiana congressional delegation and the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE