

By: Senator(s) Pickering, Harvey, Hyde-
Smith, Thames, Hewes, Morgan, Walley, Dearing

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 603

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO
2 ENACT LEGISLATION DIRECTING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
3 IMPLEMENT THE STEPS AND FUNDING NECESSARY TO CONSTRUCT THE
4 PROPOSED INTERSTATE-14 AND TO PRESCRIBE THE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED
5 ROUTE ALONG U.S. HIGHWAY 84.

6 WHEREAS, U.S. Senator Trent Lott of Mississippi and
7 Congressman Chip Pickering are sponsoring companion legislation
8 calling for the study and immediate report on proposals to
9 construct a new interstate highway between Natchez, Mississippi,
10 and Augusta, Georgia, intersecting Laurel, Mississippi, and
11 Montgomery, Alabama; and

12 WHEREAS, in light of the promise of economic parity made by
13 the United States to that region in the 14th Amendment, that new
14 interstate highway is to be known as the "14th Amendment Highway,"
15 or Interstate-14; and

16 WHEREAS, the legislation directs the United States Department
17 of Transportation to complete the report by the end of the
18 calendar year, describe the steps and estimated funding necessary
19 to construct I-14, and specifically lays out the proposed route
20 between Augusta and Natchez, via Laurel, Mississippi, Montgomery,
21 Alabama, Macon and Columbus, Georgia; and

22 WHEREAS, this legislation cites the significant economic
23 impact such an interstate would have upon South Mississippi and
24 Alabama and cites the lack of an adequate east/west interstate
25 through this region as a current impediment to job creation and
26 public safety; and

27 WHEREAS, just as building Interstate-69 through the
28 Mississippi Delta will provide economic momentum for this

29 challenged region, I-14 will intersect another economically
30 depressed area of our country--central Alabama and Mississippi.
31 In Mississippi, the Waynesboro- Laurel corridor along US Highway
32 84 has tremendous potential for additional growth which I-14 could
33 help bring. The beautiful Natchez area needs interstate access
34 and better transportation alternatives for industrial development
35 and for enhancing its already vibrant tourism economy; and

36 WHEREAS, this new interstate along the US 84 corridor
37 originally proposed will be the most important regional
38 transportation projects of our generation:

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
40 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
41 we do hereby urge the United States Congress to enact legislation
42 directing the U.S. Department of Transportation to complete its
43 report on the steps and funding necessary, and to implement
44 construction of the proposed Interstate-14, the "14th Amendment
45 Highway," and to prescribe the originally proposed route of said
46 interstate along U.S. Highway 84 between Natchez, Mississippi, and
47 Augusta, Georgia, via Laurel, Mississippi.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be certified by
49 the Secretary of State to the President of the United States, to
50 members of Mississippi's congressional delegation and to the
51 Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation.