

Resolution

of the Nevada Association of Counties

23-02

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HISTORIC ROUTES PRESERVATION ACT

(Recognizes and Honors County Authority over Historic Roads)

WHEREAS, the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure and Jobs Act ("Infrastructure Act") recognizes that, due to decades of disinvestment, county and local roads, especially in underserved and rural areas of local communities, are in poor condition which has had a negative effect on those economies and has diminished economic connectivity, and led to the occurrence of rates of higher accidents; and

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Act has made funds available to county and local governments for the repair, maintenance, and safety of local roads, bridges, and last mile connectivity; and

WHEREAS, these funds are available to counties for infrastructure and connectivity only if the counties hold title to the roads and bridges, and

WHEREAS, title to thousands of county roads in our underserved rural and remote communities is held up because of costly and prolonged litigation with the federal government under R.S. 2477, or is otherwise questioned or disputed; and

WHEREAS, most of these county roads are badly in need of repair and maintenance to ensure the safety of the travelling public, and

WHEREAS, most of these roads would qualify for funding under the Infrastructure Act, and

WHEREAS, the objectives of the Infrastructure Act cannot be achieved so long as county title to R.S. 2477 roads is questioned or tied up in federal litigation, and

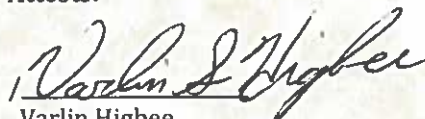
WHEREAS, the proposed Historic Routes Preservation Act attached hereto would create and mandate an efficient administrative process for the adjudication of county R.S. 2477 rights-of-way claims, and

WHEREAS, the proposed Historic Routes Preservation Act requires that this administrative adjudication process incorporates a judicial test established by the judicial system for R.S. 2477 determinations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors, of the Nevada Association of Counties, by and through its elected federal representatives, supports the introduction and passage of the Historic Routes Preservation Act by the United States Congress.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of April, 2023 by the Board of Directors of the Nevada Association of Counties.

Attests:


Varlin Higbee
President


Vinson W. Guthreau
Executive Director