



"Serving Western Legislatures"

RESOLUTION 98-3

Western Trade Corridors

Calling for full funding of the Western Trade Corridors in the TEA-21 budget and Urging Congress to concentrate on the Importance of the West's Trade Needs and Economic Vitality

Introduced by the Trade and Transportation Committee

WHEREAS, quality surface transportation is indelibly linked to the prosperity of local communities, western states and the nation; and

WHEREAS, the designation and completion of certain Western transportation corridors would facilitate a free flowing highway system; and

WHEREAS, these Western corridors already carry significant volumes in domestic and international freight; and

WHEREAS, investments in Western corridors can reduce congestion and facilitate the efficient movement of freight; and

WHEREAS, Western population growth has outpaced all other regions of the country in the 1990's resulting in a greater demand for surface transportation services; and

WHEREAS, the development and physical improvement of Western corridors would enhance highway-driving safety for the citizens of those Western states thereby saving lives; and

WHEREAS, North-South corridors should be considered to be of equal importance to East-West corridors, and therefore should have priority for improvements; and

WHEREAS, as natural resources industries evolve, enhanced corridors would assist Western states to develop viable and diverse economies for the future; and

WHEREAS, twelve high priority western corridors have already been identified in National Highway Systems, ISTEA and TEA-21 legislation; and

WHEREAS, the West has two international borders, both with Canada and Mexico, and is also our nation's only link for trade with nations throughout the entire Pacific Rim; and

WHEREAS, CSG-WEST recognizes that an efficient and safe corridor system is vital to the future of the West;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that CSG-WEST (Council of State Governments-WEST, Serving Western Legislatures) calls for increased federal funding and timely completion of the 12 Western transportation corridors (East-West Transamerica, Heartland Expressway, Economic Lifeline Corridor, United States route 395 Corridor, The Alameda Transportation corridor, the Dalton Highway, the CANAMEX Corridor, the Camino Real Corridor, the Interstate Route 5, the Alameda Corridor East and Southwest passage, the Everett-Tacoma FAST corridor and the U.S. Route 95 Corridor) previously designated by National Highway Systems, ISTEA and TEA-21;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CSG-WEST urges U. S. Congress to appropriate necessary funds to address the Western corridor system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CSG-WEST urges Western State Legislatures to both 1) fund designated corridors as much as possible and 2) petition U. S. Congress directly by resolution or other means urging completion of a Western corridor system.

*ADOPTED BY THE CSG-WEST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON SEPTEMBER 22, 1998
ASSEMBLED IN ANNUAL MEETING IN ANCHORAGE, ALASKA.*