

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

**No. 32**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Nazarian**

May 5, 2022

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Assembly Joint Resolution No. 32—Relative to infrastructure.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 32, as introduced, Nazarian. The National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2021.

This measure would urge the Congress of the United States to pass the National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2021 to establish the National Infrastructure Bank and facilitate the financing of urgently needed infrastructure projects in the United States.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)  
2 issued a score of C- for the current status of infrastructure in the  
3 United States in its 2021 Report Card for America’s Infrastructure;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The ASCE reported in the 2021 “Failure to Act:  
6 Economic Impacts of Status Quo Investment Across Infrastructure  
7 Systems” that the total documented cumulative investment gap  
8 between projected needs and likely investment in critical major  
9 American infrastructure is more than \$2,600,000,000,000 in 2029,  
10 and is projected to grow to more than \$5,600,000,000,000 in 2039;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, In the 2019 “Report Card for California’s  
13 Infrastructure,” the ASCE issued California infrastructure the  
14 following scores:

- 1 (1) For roads, a score of D;
- 2 (2) For bridges, a score of C-;
- 3 (3) For stormwater, a score of D+;
- 4 (4) For dams, a score of C-;
- 5 (5) For levees, a score of D; and

6 WHEREAS, It is estimated that: (1) driving on deficient roads  
7 costs Californians \$61,000,000,000 annually due to congestion,  
8 delays, traffic collisions, and increased vehicle operating costs  
9 caused by poor road conditions; (2) the condition of California's  
10 roads is among the worst in the nation and is ranked 49th in the  
11 nation; (3) southern California and the San Francisco Bay area are  
12 the second and third most congested urban regions in the nation,  
13 respectively; (4) approximately 50 percent of bridges in California  
14 have exceeded their design life; (5) California has the second  
15 largest percentage of functionally obsolete bridges, which  
16 contribute to congestion choke points; (6) over 7 percent of  
17 California's bridges are structurally deficient and some of the  
18 largest bridges along interstate corridors, such as Interstate  
19 Highway Route 5 in San Diego, Highway 101 in Los Angeles, and  
20 Interstate Highway Route 80 in Sacramento, need major repair  
21 and rehabilitation; (7) over the next 20 years, the cost of achieving  
22 water quality objectives will be approximately \$20,000,000,000  
23 in the County of Los Angeles, and \$5,000,000,000 in the County  
24 of San Diego; (8) over half of California's 1,476 federally, state-,  
25 and locally owned dams are considered high hazard dams; (9) 70  
26 percent of dams in California are greater than 50 years old, which  
27 is the average estimated life span of a dam; (10) a capital  
28 investment of \$45,000,000,000 is needed to rehabilitate and  
29 improve California's levees; and (11) California needs long-term  
30 guaranteed financing to pay for the state's high-speed rail system,  
31 which is estimated to require an excess of \$75,000,000,000; and

32 WHEREAS, The National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2021 H.R.  
33 3339 — 117th Congress would establish a new National  
34 Infrastructure Bank authorized to invest \$5,000,000,000,000 in  
35 infrastructure projects, would require no new federal spending or  
36 new tax, and would be capitalized by repurposing existing United  
37 States Treasury debt; and

38 WHEREAS, The National Infrastructure Bank is modeled on  
39 previous banks that helped build much of the nation's infrastructure

1 under Presidents George Washington, James Madison, Abraham  
2 Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt; and

3 WHEREAS, The last national infrastructure modeled-bank  
4 helped bring the United States out of the Great Depression and  
5 win World War II; and

6 WHEREAS, The National Infrastructure Bank would finance  
7 all the necessary infrastructure projects in California in partnership  
8 with state and local governments; and

9 WHEREAS, Infrastructure projects funded by the National  
10 Infrastructure Bank would create 25,000,000 new jobs, pay wages  
11 subject to the Davis-Bacon Act of 1931(Public Law 71-798) as  
12 amended, and include Buy American provisions; and

13 WHEREAS, The National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2021  
14 would mandate large-scale minority hiring, and would prioritize  
15 the financing of infrastructure projects located in communities  
16 with long-term poverty, which would ensure that disadvantaged  
17 business enterprises would receive significant disbursements; and

18 WHEREAS, It is estimated that infrastructure projects financed  
19 by the National Infrastructure Bank would grow the economy by  
20 5 percent, annually; and

21 WHEREAS, Numerous state legislatures have either introduced  
22 or passed resolutions supporting the creation of the National  
23 Infrastructure Bank, including the Nevada State Legislature, the  
24 Maine State Legislature, the Rhode Island General Assembly, and  
25 the New Jersey State Legislature; and

26 WHEREAS, Many county governments and city councils,  
27 including the city councils of Philadelphia, Toledo, Providence  
28 (Rhode Island), Chicago, Cleveland, as well as national  
29 organizations, including the Public Banking Institute, the National  
30 Congress of Black Women, the National Association of Counties,  
31 the US High Speed Rail Association, the National Latino Farmers  
32 and Ranchers, the American Sustainable Business Council, and  
33 the National Association of Minority Contractors have expressed  
34 support for the National Infrastructure Bank; now, therefore, be it

35 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*  
36 *California, jointly*, That the Legislature strongly encourages the  
37 Congress of the United States to pass H.R. 3339, to establish a  
38 National Infrastructure Bank to facilitate the financing of urgently  
39 needed infrastructure projects in the United States; and be it further

1     *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and  
2 transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice  
3 President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of  
4 Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each  
5 Senator and Representative of California in the Congress of the  
6 United States, and to the Governor of California.

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