

**HOUSE  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

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*Introduced by: Dobis, Aguilera, Cheney, Kuzman, Lehe,  
Stevenson, Brown C, Harris E, Ayres, Lawson L, Smith V*

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A RESOLUTION urging the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority to begin spending the money allocated to it in HEA 1120-2005 before receiving approval of its strategic plan.

*Whereas, The Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority is charged with accomplishing a variety of projects, including investigating the extension of South Shore passenger rail service to Lowell and Valparaiso, integrating existing bus services, helping to bring the Marquette Plan for the lakeshore to completion, and helping the Gary/Chicago International Airport become a reality;*

*Whereas, The overall charge given to the Authority is to*



*boost the region's economic development;*

*Whereas, The Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority is also charged with developing a strategic plan that will include many of these projects;*

*Whereas, If the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority waits to distribute the money earmarked for the region until the strategic plan has been approved, it will miss a valuable opportunity to jump start the economic development of an area with an economy in need of stimulation;*

*Whereas, Local money is also needed to compete for federal funds from agencies like the Federal Aviation Administration, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Transit Administration, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;*

*Whereas, Competition for federal funds is fierce and Northwest Indiana is at its most critical juncture in 100 years; and*

*Whereas, In the world of business, plans must be adapted quickly to meet the needs of a changing market: Therefore,*

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1           SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives urges the  
2 Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority to proceed with  
3 spending the money allocated to it in HEA 1120-2005 before receiving  
4 approval of its strategic plan.

5           SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of  
6 Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to Governor  
7 Mitch Daniels and the Northwest Indiana Regional Development  
8 Authority.

