

CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-29

INTRODUCED BY:

Mayor Coss
Councilor Bushee

A RESOLUTION

**OPPOSING HR 7, THE AMERICAN ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE JOBS ACT; AND
URGING THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO PASS S. 1813, THE
MOVING AHEAD FOR PROGRESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY ACT (MAP-21).**

WHEREAS, HR 7, the American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act, is currently being
discussed in the U.S. House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, HR 7 would eliminate all dedicated federal funding for mass transit by
eliminating the 2.86 cent portion of the 18 cent federal gasoline tax currently dedicated to mass transit
and replace it with unidentified and non-guaranteed general fund revenue from the federal budget;
and

WHEREAS, the transit industry laid off over 78,000 workers by the end of 2010 and 84% of
the nation's transit systems cut service devastating millions of transit riders across the country; and

WHEREAS, HR 7 would streamline environmental & transportation planning tools that
protect the environment and civil rights—including the National Environmental Policy Act,
Judicial Review—and Categorical Exclusions that require project managers, planners, and engineers

1 to quantify impacts on people and nature as well as consider alternatives to the project in order to
2 expedite it and mitigate or lessen adverse impacts; and

3 **WHEREAS**, HR 7 would eliminate the alternatives analysis for New Starts funding and
4 consolidate steps in the review process that could compromise the civil rights and environmental
5 protections of the general public; and

6 **WHEREAS**, HR 7 would expand offshore oil and gas drilling and open a back door to
7 harmful projects like the Keystone XL Pipeline, a 1,700-mile pipeline which travels directly over the
8 Ogallala Aquifer, an underground lake of water that extends from South Dakota to Texas and that
9 provides millions of people with drinking water and irrigates 20% of America's agricultural harvest;
10 and

11 **WHEREAS**, HR 7 would expand offshore oil and gas drilling that can cause major
12 environmental impacts including air pollution and climate change and that can devastate entire
13 communities and the planet through the entire process associated with it, from locating the oil, to
14 drilling and pumping the oil to the surface, to building the unsustainable infrastructure required to
15 drill and transport it; and

16 **WHEREAS**, HR 7 would allow funds from the Congestion, Mitigation and Air Quality
17 Improvement Program (CMAQ) to be used for highway expansions by making congestion reduction,
18 not air quality, a criterion for eligibility, thereby putting already-dwindling funding for transit service,
19 bicycle and pedestrian-friendly projects into direct competition with new highway lane construction;
20 and

21 **WHEREAS**, HR 7 would incentivize transit operators to obtain a higher federal match for
22 capital project funding in exchange for increased public-private partnerships in the form of privatizing
23 20% of their transit service, resulting in lower quality transit service and anti-union measures; and

24 **WHEREAS**, city-wide and regional public transportation are vital components of Santa Fe's
25 economy because they bring patrons to local businesses and help workers get to work; and

1 **WHEREAS**, loss of federal transit funding has already strained Santa Fe Trails and forced its
2 governing body to replace lost federal funding through a CIP bond for the first time in our city's
3 history; and

4 **WHEREAS**, HR 7 further threatens the City's ability to expand access to mass transit and
5 pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, which is crucial for helping Santa Fe grow in a way that protects
6 the air quality of the city of Santa Fe and increases the quality of life for residents; and

7 **WHEREAS**, on March 14, 2012, the United States Senate passed S. 1813, the MAP-21 – the
8 Senates's two-year, 109 billion dollar surface transportation authorization will support our
9 community.


10 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
11 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Body hereby expresses opposition to HR 7 and will work
12 with other organizations and individuals to assure its defeat in the Conference Committee process of
13 the reauthorization of the overall Federal Surface Transportation Act.

14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Body urges the House of
15 Representatives to pass S. 1813, which will strengthens civil rights protections and increases the
16 percentage of funding dedicated to mass transit operations in our community.

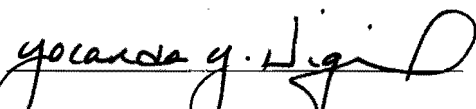
17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this
18 resolution to Santa Fe's Congressional Delegation and President Barack Obama.

19 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 14th day of March, 2012.

20
21
22 ATTEST:



DAVID COSS, MAYOR

23
24 
25 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

2 
3 _____

4 GENO ZAMORA, CITY ATTORNEY

5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25 *Cao/m/Melissa/resolutions 2012/2012-29 HR7 Opposition_S1813Support*