PRINTER'S NO. 3851

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 606 Session of 2026

INTRODUCED BY GUZMAN, HILL-EVANS, SANCHEZ, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, PASHINSKI AND McANDREW, AUGUST 31, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, AUGUST 31, 2026

A RESOLUTION

Urging the Department of Transportation to conduct a planning and environmental linkages study of U.S. Route 222 corridor from the U.S. Route 422 interchange in Berks County to the Interstate 78 interchange in Lehigh County.

WHEREAS, U.S. Route 222 is a critical transportation corridor serving Berks County, Lehigh County and surrounding communities by connecting the Reading metropolitan area, the Lehigh Valley and the Interstate Highway System; and

WHEREAS, The corridor provides an essential connection for commuters, freight movement, commercial traffic and regional economic activity, including access to major employment centers, manufacturing facilities and distribution operations throughout the eastern part of this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Since the completion of the Commonwealth's previous comprehensive evaluation of the U.S. Route 222 corridor in 2003, the region has experienced substantial changes in population, land use, economic development and transportation demand, including significant growth in freight activity; and

WHEREAS, Reading and the Lehigh Valley represent significant

population and employment centers in the eastern part of this Commonwealth, and improving transportation connectivity between these regions is important to regional mobility, safety and economic competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, Increased traffic volumes and heavy commercial vehicle activity have contributed to recurring congestion, reduced travel-time reliability and transportation challenges along portions of the corridor, demonstrating the need for updated long-range transportation planning; and

WHEREAS, A comprehensive planning and environmental linkages study would provide current information necessary to evaluate transportation needs, identify reasonable alternatives, estimate costs, assess environmental and community impacts and determine potential funding strategies for future improvements; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the Department of Transportation to conduct a comprehensive planning and environmental linkages study of the U.S. Route 222 corridor from the U.S. Route 422 interchange in Berks County to the Interstate 78 interchange in Lehigh County; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the study evaluate existing and projected transportation conditions, including traffic demand, freight movement, highway safety, congestion, travel-time reliability, emergency access and regional economic impacts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the study identify and evaluate a range of reasonable transportation alternatives to address current and future corridor needs, including operational improvements, intersection improvements, access management strategies, targeted capacity improvements, limited-access highway

alternatives and a controlled-access four-lane freeway alternative; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the study include planning-level engineering analysis, preliminary cost estimates, benefit-cost analysis, environmental resource evaluations, community impact assessments and potential mitigation strategies consistent with applicable Federal and State requirements; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the study identify potential Federal and State funding opportunities and implementation strategies, including phased improvements where appropriate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, upon completion of the study, the Department of Transportation transmit its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the Transportation Committee of the Senate and the Transportation Committee of the House of Representatives; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Secretary of Transportation, the chair and minority chair of the Transportation Committee of the Senate, the chair and minority chair of the Transportation Committee of the House of Representatives, the members of the General Assembly representing the affected corridor, the Reading Area Transportation Study and the Lehigh Valley Transportation Study.