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BROWN, DAVIDSON, ELLIS,  
FOSTER, GOLL, GRUENBERG,  
MACLEAN, MENARD, MILLER,  
NAVARRE, SHARP, AND ULMER

1 IN THE HOUSE

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 8

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Relating to support for public transpor-

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tation in Alaska, for the Rural

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Transportation Equity Act of 1989, and

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opposition to reduction of the Urban

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Mass Transit Administration's 1990

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budget proposal.

11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

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WHEREAS in addition to the transit system found in Alaska's largest

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city, Anchorage, most of the medium size cities and many rural communities

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have bus and van lines supported only by state and local resources; and

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WHEREAS there is a substantial imbalance in the funding authorized by

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the Congress for transportation services in urban and rural areas; and

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WHEREAS under present law, communities with populations under 50,000

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receive less than three percent of the transit funding through the U.S.

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Department of Transportation; and

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WHEREAS the Congress should be concerned about public transportation

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generally and not only urban transportation; and

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WHEREAS in 1989 the Congress offered only \$66,200,000 in mass transit

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funds to rural America while making more than \$168,000,000 available to

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Washington, D.C.; and

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WHEREAS legislation has been introduced in the Congress that would

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double the share of Urban Mass Transit Administration (UMTA) Section 18

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grants for the construction and operation of public transit systems in

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communities of fewer than 50,000 people; and

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WHEREAS the legislation would also establish a state-administered

1 block grant program for rural areas and small cities and seek federal  
2 subsidies for "essential bus service" on otherwise unprofitable bus routes;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS a doubling of the funds available would still not represent  
5 equity to the rural areas because that doubling would involve only six  
6 percent of amounts available under UMTA's formula grant budget; and

7 WHEREAS the Administration has proposed a 50 percent reduction in  
8 UMTA's 1990 budget proposal;

9 BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives supports the Rural  
10 Transportation Equity Act of 1989 and the concept that equity requires the  
11 rural areas of the Nation to receive a proportionate amount of the funds  
12 made available by the Congress for public transportation; and be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives opposes the Admin-  
14 istration's proposal to decrease the amounts available for public transpor-  
15 tation.

16 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Dan Quayle,  
17 Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the  
18 Honorable Jim Wright, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; and to  
19 the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators,  
20 and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska  
21 delegation in Congress.