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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4014

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State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Kessler, DeBolt, and Orcutt

Read first time 02/18/09. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1            TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE  
5 SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION:

6            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
8 represent and petition as follows:

9            WHEREAS, The trucking industry provides the backbone of our  
10 nation's retail economy; and

11           WHEREAS, The trucking industry is suffering the effects of record  
12 fuel costs in 2008; and

13           WHEREAS, Approximately three thousand transportation-related  
14 businesses filed for bankruptcy last year, taking nearly five percent  
15 of the nation's trucking capacity off the road; and

16           WHEREAS, Some truckers are forced to choose between paying for  
17 safety repairs and filling the gas tank, and others are being forced  
18 out of business; and

19           WHEREAS, House Resolution 6922 would help stabilize the trucking

1 industry and the sectors of the economy that rely on the trucking  
2 industry; and

3 WHEREAS, The United States small business administration would be  
4 authorized to make emergency loans to assist eligible small businesses;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Emergency loans of up to \$250,000 would be available for  
7 small trucking businesses that have suffered or are likely to suffer  
8 substantial economic injury as the result of increases in fuel prices;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Emergency loans could be used by small trucking businesses  
11 for working capital, upgrades necessary to meet environmental  
12 standards, maintenance and repair to ensure safe operations, and  
13 enhanced training;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United  
15 States Congress enact House Resolution 6922 of 2008 or substantially  
16 similar legislation that amends the small business act, provides low-  
17 interest loans to small businesses providing transportation services,  
18 and assists these small businesses in dealing with high motor fuel  
19 prices.

20 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
21 transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United  
22 States, the Administrator of the United States Small Business  
23 Administration, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker  
24 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the  
25 State of Washington.

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