

House Concurrent Resolution No. 16

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4223L.011

6
7 **Whereas**, originally a joint effort by the Greater Kansas City Area Chamber of
8 Commerce, the Kansas City Area Development Council, and the Mid-America Regional
9 Council, Kansas City SmartPort was created as a nonprofit economic development organization
10 in June of 2001 dedicated to building upon Kansas City's historic transportation hub status to
11 make Kansas City a cutting edge, high-tech inland port; and
12

13 **Whereas**, Kansas City is the second busiest rail hub in the United States and the
14 largest air cargo hub in a six-state area, and is strategically located at the intersection of three
15 major interstate highways - Interstate 29, Interstate 35, and Interstate 70, and on the nation's
16 largest navigable inland waterway - the Missouri/Mississippi River System; and
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18 **Whereas**, the Kansas City area has abundant foreign trade zone space and a
19 thriving transportation/logistics industry, with the local United States Customs Service office
20 clearing over \$9 billion worth of goods each year; and
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22 **Whereas**, the Kansas City area is also a vital link in the nation's freight
23 transportation system, with an estimated 80 million tons of freight moving to and from the region
24 each year, and approximately 50% of all eastbound intermodal freight entering the United States
25 through West Coast ports passes through the Kansas City area; and
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27 **Whereas**, transportation has always been a central part of economic development
28 and the strength of a region and Kansas City has the transportation strengths and infrastructure
29 to meet the needs of manufacturers and distributors; and
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25 **Whereas**, SmartPort's initiatives to improve on these transportation strengths with
26 new technologies will only increase the marketability of Kansas City to new investments; and
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28 **Whereas**, SmartPort will develop the resources to become part of the team for
29 economic recruitment and will be brought into projects to provide transportation solutions to
30 prospects looking at the Kansas City area; and
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32 **Whereas**, SmartPort is committed to working with various groups and the Federal
33 Government to design and implement intelligent transportation systems to improve the security
34 and efficiency of the transportation infrastructure; and
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36 **Whereas**, last year, SmartPort requested \$5 million in funding under the Federal
37 Transportation Reauthorization (SAFETEA) bill to further design and implement a system that
38 would enhance the security and efficiency of international and domestic cargo shipped to, from,
39 and through the Kansas City region:
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41 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
42 Representatives of the Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
43 concurring therein, hereby urge the members of the Missouri Congressional Delegation to
44 support funding for Kansas City SmartPort, Inc. to build upon Kansas City's historic
45 transportation hub status to make Kansas City a cutting edge, high-tech inland port; and
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47 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
48 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for each
49 member of the Missouri Congressional Delegation.