

1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
JOINT  
2 RESOLUTION NO. 35

By: Sparks and Sweeden of the  
Senate

3  
4 and

Collins of the House  
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8 A Joint Resolution in support of the State of Kansas,  
the Kansas Department of Transportation, and the  
9 National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) for  
their participation with the Amtrak feasibility study  
10 requested by the Kansas Department of Transportation  
on February 11, 2008; and directing distribution.  
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13 WHEREAS, the portion of the national passenger rail service  
14 (Amtrak) heretofore known as the Heartland Flyer began operating in  
15 Oklahoma on June 15, 1999; and

16 WHEREAS, the present Amtrak route terminates in Oklahoma City,  
17 Oklahoma, without a northern connection to the Amtrak national  
18 network; and

19 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation commissioned  
20 and received a passenger rail study in March, 2001, as produced by  
21 the Carter Burgess Engineering firm which included a route  
22 feasibility analysis detailing expansion cost, infrastructure need  
23 between Oklahoma City and Newton, Kansas; and  
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1       WHEREAS, the Kansas Department of Transportation issued an  
2 official request to Amtrak for study of this route segment on  
3 February 11, 2008; and

4       WHEREAS, the Kansas Department of Transportation has extended  
5 the original Oklahoma Carter Burgess 2001 Oklahoma City - Newton,  
6 Kansas, study route to include the rail line between Newton and  
7 Kansas City, Missouri, making it a full 602-mile-corridor study  
8 between Fort Worth, Texas, and Kansas City, Missouri; and

9       WHEREAS, federal matching funding has become available as  
10 administered by the Federal Railroad Administration through the  
11 Passenger Rail Improvement and Reform Act of 2008 and through the  
12 passage of H.R. 2095, the Rail Safety Improvement Act, including the  
13 Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act.

14       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
15 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

16       THAT the Oklahoma Legislature urges the Oklahoma Department of  
17 Transportation to jointly participate with the Kansas Department of  
18 Transportation in the expanded passenger rail service study as a  
19 part of a new passenger rail transportation corridor between the  
20 points of Kansas City and Fort Worth, Texas.

21       THAT the Oklahoma Legislature fully accepts the findings of the  
22 Amtrak study requested by the Kansas Department of Transportation on  
23 February 11, 2008, as factual and as an accepted guideline for  
24 Oklahoma passenger rail development.

