

10 **A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE FUTURE OF THE JONES FALLS EXPRESSWAY**

20 **WHEREAS:** The Jones Falls Expressway is an elevated freeway that runs through downtown Baltimore; and,

30 **WHEREAS:** This elevated freeway acts as a physical barrier between east and central Baltimore; and,

40 **WHEREAS:** This barrier acts to discourage investment in east Baltimore, and keeps business investment in
50 central Baltimore from spreading out into the neighboring areas; and

60 **WHEREAS:** The federal government has several grant programs designed to encourage infrastructure
70 development and job creation, as well as redevelopment incentives; and,

80 **WHEREAS:** Removing the elevated freeway is essential to redevelopment in east Baltimore; and,

90 **WHEREAS:** Converting this elevated freeway into an at grade boulevard would allow for traffic and people to
100 flow in every direction without physical barriers; and,

110 **WHEREAS:** This boulevard would serve to not only carry traffic, but would also allow the opportunity for the
120 construction of light rail from Pennsylvania Station into the Harbor East area; and,

130 **WHEREAS:** This new corridor would attract new investments into an area that is primarily parking lots and
140 underutilized space; and,

150 **WHEREAS:** Any investment taken now will create short term jobs in construction, and long term jobs and
160 economic gain from new businesses and industry.

170 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature encourages the Maryland
180 General Assembly and the City of Baltimore to transform the Jones Falls Expressway south of
190 Calvert Street and Pennsylvania Station into a boulevard with light rail right of ways.

200 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That this area should receive targeted development incentives.

210 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the state and city seek any available federal funds for this project.

220 **MANDATES :**

- 230 Governor Martin O'Malley, State of Maryland
- 240 Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, City of Baltimore
- 250 Secretary Beverley K. Swaim-Staley, Maryland Department of Transportation
- 260 Secretary Ray LaHood, United States Department of Transportation
- 270 Representative Steny Hoyer, United States Congress
- 280 Representative Frank Kratovil, United States Congress

Sponsor:

Scott Thomas Besore,
Salisbury University Delegation Chairperson