

## **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18**

Whereas, President Biden, in a historical signing, made a commitment to set a goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underprivileged, underserved, and overburdened by pollution;

Whereas, that commitment is contained in Executive Order 14008, signed on January 27, 2021, and known as the Justice 40 Initiative. The categories of investment include climate change, clean energy and energy efficiency, clean modern renewable-based transit, affordable and sustainable housing, training and workforce development, remediation and reduction of legacy pollution, and the development of clean water and wastewater infrastructure;

Whereas, President Biden's one trillion-dollar infrastructure law which passed November 6, 2021, requires the investment of \$55 billion to expand access to clean drinking water for households, businesses, schools, and centers across the country. The investment covers rural towns to struggling cities, and addresses water infrastructure and the elimination of lead service pipes, including in Tribal Nations and disadvantaged communities that need it most;

Whereas, the bipartisan infrastructure law will deliver \$65 billion to help ensure that every American has access to high-speed internet through a historic investment in broadband infrastructure and deployment. The law includes \$39 billion of new investment to modernize transit, in addition to continuing the existing transit programs for the next five years as part of the surface transportation reauthorization. In total, the bipartisan infrastructure

law provides \$89.9 billion in guaranteed funding for public transit over the next five years;

Whereas, \$65 billion will be invested in clean energy which will include building thousands of miles of new resilient transmission lines to facilitate the expansion of renewable and clean energy while lowering cost. The law includes funding for new programs to support the development, demonstration, and deployment of cutting-edge clean energy technologies to accelerate our nation's transition to a zero-emission economy;

Whereas, the bipartisan infrastructure law will create community-impacted resilience and provide an investment of over \$50 billion to protect against droughts, heat, floods, and wildfires, in addition to a major investment in weatherization;

Whereas, the bipartisan infrastructure law will deliver \$21 billion, the largest investment in tackling legacy pollution by cleaning up Superfund and brownfield sites, reclaiming abandoned mines, and capping orphaned oil and gas wells. These projects will remediate environmental damage and address legacy pollution that harms the public health of communities and advance long overdue environmental justice. This investment will benefit communities of color, as it has been found that 29% of Hispanic communities, and 26% of Black Americans live within 3 miles of Superfund sites;

Whereas, through the President's bipartisan infrastructure law, the Inflation Reduction Act and the American Rescue Plan, federal agencies are making historic levels of investment to advance environmental justice which will confront decades of underinvestment in disadvantaged communities and bring critical resources to communities that

have been overburdened by legacy pollution and environmental hazards;

Whereas, the State of Missouri should seek Justice 40 funding to preserve and protect its lands, watersheds, clean drinking water, wildlife, food security, local healthy agriculture, to increase local and community-owned renewable penetration, and to provide affordable housing, quality education, and workforce development;

Whereas, since climate change has impacted the health and quality of life for residents of Missouri, an executive order should be put in place to address the social, economic, and environmental conditions of our state calling on the input of our stakeholders in cooperation with state government to work together to secure funding for shovel-ready projects;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the members of the Missouri Senate, One Hundred-Second General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby urge the Governor to establish an oversight committee to interact with federal agencies over the more than 450 programs listed under the Justice 40 Initiative and to coordinate with local, state, and federal agencies in order to ensure maximum benefits to the residents of the state of Missouri; and

Be It Further Resolved that the committee should consist of the directors, or their designees, of state departments that are similar to their federal counterparts under the Justice 40 Initiative as well as community stakeholders appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor;

Be It Further Resolved that the committee should provide the Governor with funding recommendations to be submitted to the various federal agencies identified under the Justice 40 Initiative for funding under any federal funding sources that are available; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Governor Parson.