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NC GO! UNVEILS RESOLUTION CALLING FOR INVESTMENT IN CRITICAL TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

RALEIGH, NC – *NC Go!*, the state’s “voice” on transportation issues, presented today its joint resolution asking the North Carolina General Assembly to take definitive steps in finding and implementing meaningful funding solutions for transportation.

“We are approaching a real crisis in our state,” said Beau Mills, chair of *NC Go!* “Over the next 25 years, we expect a \$65 billion shortfall in needed transportation funding. At this rate, our roads and bridges will continue to deteriorate which increases congestion, decreases safety and increases costs. That isn’t an incentive for sustaining economic opportunity and enhancing quality of life.”

The resolution calls for increased transportation funding and was signed by transportation advocacy partners representing thousands of companies, organizations, municipalities and public transit agencies, as well as millions of employees throughout the state.

Organizations jointly signing include:

- American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)
- Charlotte Chamber of Commerce
- Regional Roads Committee (Charlotte region)
- Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS)
- Council of Independent Business Owners (CIBO)
- Highway 17 Association
- North Carolina Economic Developers Association (NCEDA)
- North Carolina League of Municipalities
- North Carolina Metropolitan Coalition
- North Carolina Public Transportation Association
- Professional Engineers of North Carolina (PENC)
- Regional Transportation Alliance (Triangle region)
- Triangle Transit Authority (TTA)
- Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce

“We are falling behind in making investments in our transportation system – we must turn that around now before it is too late,” said Mills. “Failure to keep up with traffic demands and road maintenance means we spend more time in traffic – away from our families and work.”

“NC’s transportation system is at a crossroads. I describe it as a perfect storm - a fast growing population that is driving longer distances and putting more miles on our roads every year combined with a rapid inflation increase for transportation related commodities such as steel and concrete. Add to that relatively flat revenues from the gas tax and diminishing federal aid and you have the ingredients for disaster,” said Mills. “This leaves us at this critical juncture – we can take the necessary actions to maintain a modern transportation system – with efficient roads, bridges, transit, airports and ports - or we can turn our backs and ignore the problem.”

“The legacy we pass to future generations should not be a broken transportation system,” said Mills. “Bottlenecks, dangerous roads and incomplete transportation projects are what are children will inherit unless we come up with meaningful funding solutions.”

NC Go! is the leading resource in the state on transportation issues. Its diverse membership – including local chambers of commerce, regional transit systems, construction industry associations and consulting engineers around the state – uniquely suits it to comprehensively address the many facets of transportation policy.

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