



## INTERNATIONAL TRADE CROSSING RESOLUTION

**Whereas**, a new international bridge crossing has the potential to substantially increase economic development and trade opportunities, as well as reduce cargo delays and shipping time between U.S. and Canadian auto plants, and

**Whereas**, there is interest from the private investment market in providing an estimated \$950 million in erection capital that would be repaid from bridge toll revenue, and

**Whereas**, Michigan is pursuing execution of an inter-local agreement to create an international bridge authority under the Urban Cooperation Act of 1967; and

**Whereas**, such an agreement allows government agencies to share their budgets to reach a common goal; and

**Whereas**, the Canadian government is committed to building a new publicly-owned bridge between Windsor and Detroit that will benefit both countries; and

**Whereas**, that commitment is demonstrated by the Canadian government's stated willingness to pay an estimated \$550 million to connect the bridge to I-75 in the United States; and

**Whereas**, the use of U.S. domestically produced materials aligns with U.S. federal construction project mandates; and

**Whereas**, the Canadian government seeks to support project financing that produces the lowest responsible project costs; and

**Whereas**, the project is expected to create 10,000 construction jobs in Michigan and Ontario; and

**Whereas**, the residents and businesses of Detroit and Windsor remain critically in need of job creation and commerce opportunities to support their recovery from the disproportionate and adverse impact of the pre-auto industry bailout economy; and

**Whereas**, Detroit and Windsor residents and businesses seek commitments to tangible economic and community benefits associated with the project; and

**Whereas**, the Federal Highway Administration authorized Michigan's use of "best value" processes in the successful 2011 reconstruction of M-39; and

**Whereas**, best value processes provide a framework to address challenges and concerns regarding a mutually beneficial solution to project costs associated with the use of domestic products and implementation of local employment and business participation initiatives;

**Therefore Be It Resolved**, that the undersigned support and encourage efforts to stimulate Michigan's economic expansion, and encourage the State, Provincial and National leaders engaged in finalizing the International Trade Crossing Bi-National Authority, to establish an on-going Local Commerce & Community Development Resource Committee to support the achievement of "best values" that utilize resource organizations like the Canadian and Aboriginal Minority Supplier Council and Michigan Minority Supplier Development Council to track and report local job creation, business participation and community benefit progress.

*Louis Green*

Louis Green  
President & CEO  
Michigan Minority Supplier Development Council

*Kenneth Harris*

Kenneth Harris  
President & CEO  
Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce

*KB Stallworth*

Honorable Dr. KB Stallworth  
Managing Director  
Black Caucus Foundation of Michigan