WHEREAS, populations of fish, wildlife, and plant species in the United States are on the decline, in fact, estimates suggest that one in five native species is at risk of extinction; and

WHEREAS, a major threat to fish, wildlife, and plant species in the United States is the loss, degradation, fragmentation, and obstruction of their natural habitats; and

WHEREAS, wildlife are losing the ability to move across landscapes reducing their ability to respond to changes in habitat, food availability, and climate; and

WHEREAS, wildlife-vehicle collisions cost over $8 billion each year and pose a risk to human and wildlife health; and

WHEREAS, wildlife corridors facilitate the movement of wildlife across the landscape; and

WHEREAS, states are recognizing that wildlife corridors and wildlife crossings are important for protecting native species as well as reducing wildlife-vehicle collisions and are taking actions; and

WHEREAS, the Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act will help create a system of federally designated wildlife corridors across the United States on federal lands; and

WHEREAS, the Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act will also provide funding and incentives for the protection of wildlife corridors by state and tribal agencies and private landowners on non-federal lands; and
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Conference of State Legislators urges the President of the United States and each Member of Congress to establish a national system to implement and promote wildlife corridors and crossings similar to that of the federal Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act of 2019, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress.