



## THE ROAD AHEAD PARTNERSHIP

### **U.S. HOUSE PASSES BILL TO ESTABLISH RT. 66 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMISSION**

In just eight short years, Historic Route 66 will celebrate its 100th anniversary. Efforts to ensure the U.S. is ready to celebrate this milestone were advanced on July 16th, when the U.S. House of Representatives passed HR66, a bill to establish a Federal-level Rt. 66 100th Anniversary Commission. Congressman Rodney Davis [R-IL] introduced the legislation approximately 18 months ago, at the request of the Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership.

HR66 now advances to the Senate. The Road Ahead Partnership has set a goal of Senate approval and a signature from the President by or before the end of this year.

The Road Ahead is working to advance the Federal-level Rt. 66 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission at the same time it is urging each of the states through which Rt. 66 passes to adopt similar state-level commissions. Two of the eight have already done so. Earlier this year, Missouri passed a bill, signed by then-Governor Eric Greitens, to form an 18-member commission to plan and sponsor a Rt. 66 centennial observance in the Show-Me state in 2026. In Illinois, Rep. Tim Butler [R-Springfield] sponsored a similar proposal that has been approved by the Illinois General Assembly. It now awaits the signature of Governor Bruce Rauner. The Road Ahead is now working with Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California to set up similar commissions.

Established in 2015 with the support of the National Park Service and the World Monuments Fund, The Route Road Ahead Partnership's mission is to revitalize and sustain Route 66 as a national and international icon through partnerships focused on promotion, preservation, research and education, and economic development.

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