OVERVIEW: Section 34.8 of S.L. 2017-57:

- Authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to annually allocate funds to specified qualifying Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Rural Transportation Planning Organizations (RPOs) to fund a portion of the local match required under federal law for federal State Planning and Research Program Funds.

- Requires DOT to establish a Corridor Development Unit to work with MPOs and RPOs that receive funding under this section, to assist them in the development of corridor studies on highway projects prior to submitting them for prioritization in a long term transportation planning document.

- Directs DOT to develop reports due April 1, 2018 and April 1, 2019 on the usage of federal State Planning and Research Program funds allocated in accordance with this section, and submit them to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee.

This section became effective July 1, 2017.