



HR1302

LRB100 24102 ALS 43416 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Thomas J. "T.J." Ross on  
4 the occasion of his retirement as the Executive Director of  
5 Pace Suburban Bus; and

6           WHEREAS, In July 1998, T.J. Ross began his service to Pace  
7 Suburban Bus as the Executive Director; one of his first  
8 initiatives as Executive Director was to install bike racks on  
9 all Pace fixed route buses; and

10           WHEREAS, From 2016 through 2018, T.J. Ross oversaw the  
11 agency's I-90 Market Expansion Program, the largest service  
12 expansion in Pace history and the first inline (on highway) bus  
13 station in the State of Illinois; and

14           WHEREAS, T.J. Ross oversaw the conversion of Pace's fixed  
15 route fleet to accessible low-floor vehicles; he led the  
16 initiative to install Transit Signal Priority (TSP) in Pace's  
17 South Cook County service area, resulting in more reliable  
18 service; he converted Pace's South Division to Compressed  
19 Natural Gas (CNG), reducing emissions and saving \$1.2 million  
20 dollars annually in fuel; and

21           WHEREAS, T.J. Ross led Pace during the launch of Ventra and

1 added Pace's first real-time information signs, dozens of new  
2 bus routes, and hundreds of vanpools; in 2006, he successfully  
3 transferred Chicago ADA Paratransit Service from the CTA to  
4 Pace, stabilizing the system and improving service; and

5 WHEREAS, T.J. Ross always led Pace's operations from a  
6 perspective of regional equity in operations and policy  
7 throughout the entire service area; and

8 WHEREAS, T.J. Ross holds masters degrees in civil  
9 engineering and public administration; he is a registered  
10 Professional Civil Engineer; and

11 WHEREAS, T.J. Ross's transit career includes 19 years in  
12 the private sector and 25 years in the public sector; he has  
13 held the positions of planner, engineer, maintenance director,  
14 general manager, and executive director; he did not miss one  
15 Pace Board Meeting during his 20-year career, and he leaves  
16 with the appreciation and good wishes of Pace management and  
17 staff; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
19 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
20 congratulate Thomas J. " T.J." Ross on his accomplishments and  
21 his 20 years of loyal and dedicated service, and we wish him  
22 success in his future endeavors; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to T.J. Ross as an expression of our esteem and  
3 respect.