



HR0730

LRB101 20509 MST 70106 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the sudden death of Thomas K. Vanwinkle of Belleville, who passed away on February 3, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Thomas Vanwinkle was born on February 15, 1975 and was affectionately known as "TK" to his family, friends, and co-workers; he was a career railroader and spent the majority of his career as a trainman at the Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis (TRRA) from 2003 to 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Earlier in his rail career, Thomas Vanwinkle worked for the Union Pacific Railroad and the Kansas City Southern Railroad; and

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WHEREAS, Thomas Vanwinkle was a long-standing and active member and local officer for SMART-Transportation Division (formerly United Transportation Union) Local #469; and

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WHEREAS, Thomas Vanwinkle held the position of Local Legislative Representative in Local #469 from 2004 until 2019 and Local Chairperson from 2008 until 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Thomas Vanwinkle served as SMART-Transportation

1 Division General Chairperson of GO 919 from October 1, 2019
2 until his untimely passing; and

3 WHEREAS, Thomas Vanwinkle was a dedicated union
4 representative who put the needs and best interests of his
5 members above his own; and

6 WHEREAS, Thomas Vanwinkle was a cherished member and
7 officer of SMART-Transportation Division and will be sorely
8 missed by his fellow co-workers and union officers and members;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Thomas Vanwinkle was a devoted family man and
11 unconditionally loved his wife, Kim, his sons, Copelan,
12 Jonathan, and Justin, his daughters, Dailyn and Kaylee, and his
13 mother, Jeannie; and

14 WHEREAS, Thomas Vanwinkle was above all else a caring and
15 compassionate person whose tragic and far too early passing is
16 both devastating and difficult to comprehend for those who knew
17 him best; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
19 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
20 we mourn the passing of Thomas K. "TK" Vanwinkle and extend our
21 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew

1 and loved him; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
3 presented to the family of Thomas Vanwinkle as an expression of
4 our deepest sympathy.