



HR0928

LRB104 22044 LAW 38129 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Richard "Rick" Kwasneski
4 on the occasion of his retirement after an extraordinary
5 career in public service, through which he tirelessly
6 dedicated himself to the residents of the State of Illinois;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Born in Joliet and raised in Lemont, Rick
9 Kwasneski earned a Bachelor of Science in Business
10 Administration from Lewis University in 1981, where he was an
11 active member of the Delta Sigma Pi professional business
12 fraternity; and

13 WHEREAS, Rick Kwasneski began his distinguished career in
14 public service with a 16-year tenure serving the Village of
15 Lemont, first as a village trustee from 1985 to 1993 and then
16 as mayor from 1993 to 2001; and

17 WHEREAS, Rick Kwasneski has served as chairman of the Pace
18 Suburban Bus Board of Directors since December 7, 2006, making
19 him the longest-serving chairman in the agency's history,
20 having been reappointed for five consecutive terms by the
21 chairs of DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties and
22 the Suburban Caucus of the Cook County Board; and

1 WHEREAS, Under Rick Kwasneski's visionary leadership, Pace
2 has become the nation's largest provider of ADA paratransit
3 service and has successfully implemented innovative transit
4 solutions, including Bus on Shoulder programs, Pulse Rapid
5 Transit, and Flex Lane Express Service; and

6 WHEREAS, As chairman, Rick Kwasneski has overseen the
7 largest investment in suburban transit infrastructure through
8 the Rebuild Illinois program, securing vital funding for
9 garages in Plainfield, Elgin, Wheeling, and Bridgeview, as
10 well as passenger facilities in Joliet, Schaumburg, and
11 Harvey; and

12 WHEREAS, Beyond transit, Rick Kwasneski has significantly
13 impacted regional economic development as executive director
14 of the Joliet Arsenal Development Authority, overseeing the
15 transformation of the former arsenal into a premier inland
16 port that has generated over \$1 billion in private investment;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Rick Kwasneski's extensive service has included
19 roles with the American Public Transit Association (APTA), the
20 Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Policy
21 Committee, and the Will County Center for Economic
22 Development; and

1 WHEREAS, Rick Kwasneski remains a devoted family man,
2 celebrating over 40 years of marriage to his wife, Renee, with
3 whom he raised four children; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we congratulate Richard "Rick" Kwasneski on his retirement
7 from public service during the summer of 2026, thank him for
8 his profound contributions to the infrastructure and economy
9 of northeastern Illinois, and wish him the very best in his
10 future endeavors; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to Rick Kwasneski as an expression of our esteem and
13 respect.