



HR0605

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to recognize Tom Carper for his
4 remarkable contributions to the City of Macomb, the State of
5 Illinois, and the nation's rail infrastructure; and

6 WHEREAS, Tom Carper, a former Mayor of Macomb and a
7 recently retired member of the Amtrak Board of Directors, has
8 exhibited an unwavering commitment to public service and
9 transportation excellence; and

10 WHEREAS, Tom Carper is the longest-tenured board member in
11 the history of Amtrak, a testament to his dedication and
12 leadership; and

13 WHEREAS, Tom Carper's tenure on the Amtrak Board of
14 Directors began in 2008 following his nomination by President
15 Bush and continued through subsequent reappointments,
16 including one by President Obama; he has served with
17 distinction under four different presidents, showcasing his
18 bipartisan and dedicated approach to governance; and

19 WHEREAS, Tom Carper, in his role as chairman of the board
20 from 2009 until the expiration of his term in 2013 and beyond
21 through his reappointment, championed critical issues, such as

1 ensuring service to underserved communities, bolstering local
2 economies, and enhancing safety and cybersecurity measures,
3 thereby embodying the spirit of public service; and

4 WHEREAS, Tom Carper has consistently been a champion of
5 the Illinois passenger rail network, helping deliver historic
6 capital investments from the American Rescue and Recovery Act
7 and serving as a leader of the successful coalition that
8 pushed for increased passenger rail service throughout the
9 State of Illinois; and

10 WHEREAS, Tom Carper's leadership extended beyond his
11 national service to include significant local contributions as
12 the mayor of Macomb for over a decade and as a director of a
13 regional economic development plan, positions through which he
14 gained invaluable insights into economic development and
15 community service in the Midwest; and

16 WHEREAS, Tom Carper's military service in the U.S. Army in
17 Thailand and Vietnam and his leadership in both local and
18 national capacities reflect his profound commitment to his
19 country and community; and

20 WHEREAS, Tom Carper's deep understanding of the importance
21 of passenger rail service and his efforts to modernize
22 America's transportation infrastructure have left an indelible

1 mark on the nation and particularly on the State of Illinois;
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
4 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
5 we recognize Tom Carper for his remarkable contributions to
6 the City of Macomb, the State of Illinois, and the nation's
7 rail infrastructure and extend our heartfelt gratitude for his
8 years of service and dedication; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to Tom Carper as a symbol of our deep appreciation
11 for his exemplary service and as a token of our best wishes for
12 his future endeavors.