



SR1004

LRB101 20508 MST 70105 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate 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 Division General Chairperson of GO 919 from October 1, 2019

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1 until his untimely passing; and

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

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

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

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

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

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