

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUED STATE FUNDING
OF INTERCITY PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE

WHEREAS, Amtrak provides a vital service in Champaign County accounting for 65,000 passenger boardings per year and the State supported "Illini" train service is of particular importance; and

WHEREAS, the loss of intercity passenger rail service would create increased congestion on Interstate 57 and on local streets and would reduce the mobility of individuals without automobiles, particularly students at the University of Illinois and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, Congress has expressed the intent, by adopting the Amtrak Reform and Privatization Act of 1995, to eventually eliminate Federal operating support for Amtrak and has significantly reduced the authorization for Amtrak; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak has had to reduce funding for trains that are partly state supported to the point that the trains cannot continue without additional State support; and

WHEREAS, maintaining existing intercity passenger rail service is important to maintaining a nation wide rail passenger system and is supportive of the State's incremental approach to developing high-speed rail service in the state.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. That the State of Illinois should provide sufficient appropriations to maintain existing state funded intercity passenger rail service.

Section 2. That the State should develop a dedicated funding source to support such service sufficient to fund exiting services and improved services.

Section 3. That improved service to Champaign County and the University of Illinois should be given consideration, especially with respect to providing an earlier northbound departure time.

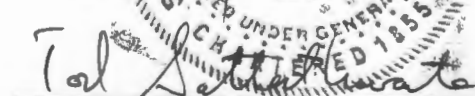
Section 4. That the City Clerk is hereby directed to send copies of this Resolution to Representative Timothy Johnson, 314 Statehouse, Springfield, Illinois 62706; Representative Rick Winkel, 2015-H Stratton Building, Springfield, Illinois 62706; Senator Stanley Weaver, 329B Statehouse, Springfield, Illinois 62706; to the Governor; and to the Governor's Legislative Amtrak Task Force.

PASSED by the Urbana City Council this 16th day of January, 1996.



Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED by the Mayor this 19th day of January, 1996.



Tod Satterthwaite, Mayor

