

1999 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 36

1 **Relating to:** congratulating Secretary Charles H. Thompson for his long-term
2 services and wishing him well in his future endeavors.

3 Whereas, Charles H. Thompson has been secretary of the Wisconsin
4 Department of Transportation since January 1992, the longest-serving secretary of
5 transportation in the history of Wisconsin; and

6 Whereas, Charles H. Thompson has been active in many state and national
7 organizations, committees and task forces, including leadership positions with the
8 American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; and

9 Whereas, Charles H. Thompson serves as a director of the Center for
10 Transportation and the Environment at North Carolina State University; serves on
11 the Executive Committee for the Gary/Chicago/Milwaukee Corridor coalition, which
12 oversees the development of the Intelligent Transportation Systems technology in
13 the I 94 study corridor; and, at the state level, serves on the Wisconsin Land Use Task
14 Force; and

1 Whereas, Charles H. Thompson brought his private-sector expertise, interests
2 and experience to the department, giving it a stronger proactive, quality-based,
3 customer-service perspective that resulted in the department's commitment to
4 providing better products and services; and

5 Whereas, as secretary, Charles H. Thompson saw the advent and
6 implementation in Wisconsin of a new federal transportation bill, known as ISTEA,
7 which was designed "to develop a national intermodal transportation system that is
8 economically efficient, environmentally sound, provides the foundation for the
9 nation to compete in the global economy and will move people and goods in an energy
10 efficient manner," and its successor, TEA 21; and

11 Whereas, under Secretary Thompson's leadership, the Wisconsin Department
12 of Transportation reorganized under "Transform" and the "Strategic Change Event"
13 to more efficiently meet and exceed the needs of its customers, legislators and local
14 governments and to establish a new mission, vision and values for all WisDOT
15 employes; and

16 Whereas, traffic safety was improved under Secretary Thompson, with traffic
17 fatality rates dropping from 1.7 deaths per hundred million vehicle miles traveled
18 in 1991 to 1.3 in 1999, saving scores of lives on Wisconsin's streets and highways; seat
19 belt use has risen; and additional troopers have been authorized to increase safety
20 on state and interstate highways; and

21 Whereas, Secretary Thompson has encouraged expanded use of native grasses
22 and wildflowers along the state's highways to enhance the drive of Wisconsin's
23 motorists; now, therefore, be it

1 ***Resolved by the assembly, That*** the members of the Wisconsin assembly
2 recognize and congratulate Charles H. Thompson for his long-term services and
3 wish him well in his future endeavors; and, be it further

4 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall transmit a copy of this resolution
5 to Secretary Thompson.

6

(END)