

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 94

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Joe Gieselman on the occasion of his retirement as executive manager of the Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources department after 36 years of loyal service with the county; and

WHEREAS, After originally studying to become a priest at Saint Mary's University, Joe Gieselman graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics and began his career with the San Antonio city manager's office; and

WHEREAS, Working with local government and developing cities appealed to him, and he went on to earn a master's degree in urban planning at Texas A&M University; after working as an urban planner in Venezuela for a year as part of an internship, he returned to Texas and worked for the state as a planner for two years; and

WHEREAS, He became Travis County's first transportation analyst in April of 1975 at a time when each of the four county commissioner precincts had a road-and-bridge department; he conducted the first countywide survey to assess the condition of county roads; he became the county's director of planning and director of the Austin Transportation Study, now known as the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, or CAMPO, a position he held from 1979 to 1989; and

WHEREAS, When the Commissioners Court consolidated the road-and-bridge departments and combined them with parks and engineering, Mr. Gieselman became deputy director of the consolidated department, which later grew to include the environmental department and fleet maintenance as well; in 1993, he earned a master of business administration degree from The University of Texas and became executive manager of the Transportation and Natural Resources department; and

WHEREAS, As Travis County's population has grown from 250,000 to more than one million, Joe Gieselman has played an integral role in the development of the county's transportation system and infrastructure; an exemplary public servant, he was instrumental in the acquisition of Reimers Ranch and Hamilton Pool and in increasing transparency and professionalism at the department; and

WHEREAS, A visionary leader, Joe Gieselman has earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues and the public, and his presence at the county's transportation department will be greatly missed; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby commend Joe Gieselman for his outstanding service and his many contributions to the Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources department and the citizens of Travis County and extend to him best wishes for the retirement years ahead; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Watson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on January 26, 2011.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate