113th CONGRESS

2d Session

**H. RES.** \_\_\_

Expressing the sense of the House about the important role for public transportation in human services transportation coordination.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2014

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION**

Expressing the sense of the House about the important role for public transportation in human services transportation coordination.

Whereas public transportation is key to preserving independence for many Americans, ensuring individual good health, and supporting strong communities nationwide;

Whereas the most transportation-disadvantaged populations rely on public transportation to provide access to health care and other essential services;

Whereas coordinated transportation is essential to enabling persons with disabilities, persons with low incomes, and older adults to fully participate in their communities;

Whereas coordinated transportation can improve access to the ladders of opportunity that the Administration seeks to advance, and can therefore contribute to a more robust economy;

Whereas public transportation providers are effective and efficient in coordinating transportation services that provide mobility and access to opportunity for a wide range of individuals and trip purposes;

Whereas the growing loss in funding for Medicaid-reimbursed trips, coupled with a corresponding loss in State transit operating assistance, is resulting in reduced transit service for transportation-disadvantaged populations, especially persons with disabilities and older adults, in rural communities across the country;

Whereas the Government Accountability Office (GAO) has found that 80 Federal programs in eight different Federal departments fund a variety of transportation services for transportation-disadvantaged populations, and the great majority of such programs serve a primary mission other than transportation;

Whereas President George W. Bush issued an Executive Order in 2004 establishing an Interagency Transportation Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility and directed the participation of Federal departments and agencies across the government; and

Whereas the Federal Transit Administration and its United We Ride initiative have provided significant leadership at the Federal level, but the GAO has found that additional Federal leadership is required to improve human services transportation coordination in this area across all Federal programs, departments, and agencies: Now, therefore be it

*Resolved,* That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) public transportation is essential to the health, mobility, and economic well-being of many transportation-disadvantaged Americans in rural communities nationwide;

(2) public transportation agencies efficiently and effectively provide human services transportation to ensure mobility and access to opportunity for a wide range of needs, but they face funding and coordination challenges; and

(3) the President should therefore issue an Executive Order on human services transportation coordination, directing Federal agencies to bolster their commitment to the Interagency Transportation Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility and to the goal of seamless, comprehensive, efficient and accessible community transportation services for the many Americans who rely on these services.