



2023 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 124

February 16, 2024 - Introduced by Representatives EMERSON, J. ANDERSON, BARE, CONLEY, CONSIDINE, DRAKE, JACOBSON, JOERS, OHNSTAD, MOORE OMOKUNDE, PALMERI, RATCLIFF, SHANKLAND, SINICKI, SNODGRASS, STUBBS, SUBECK and CLANCY, cosponsored by Senators SMITH, L. JOHNSON, AGARD, LARSON, PFAFF, ROYS and SPREITZER. Referred to Committee on Rules.

AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming February 4, 2024, as Transit Equity Day.

2 Whereas, Rosa Parks was an iconic figure in the movements for social justice
3 and racial equality and played a major role in the inception of the Civil Rights
4 Movement that ended legal segregation in the United States; and

5 Whereas, the immediate focus of Rosa Parks' historic protest was the unequal
6 access of African-Americans to public transit; and

7 Whereas, unequal access to public transit based on race, income, and disability
8 has persisted to this day, and has to a degree become worse, with cuts in public
9 funding for transit and consequent fare increases in many transit systems; and

10 Whereas, paratransit is a necessary component for any public transit system
11 to ensure accessibility for people with disabilities who require it, and any expansion
12 of public transit necessitates further strengthening of paratransit so that it is
13 minimally held to the same reliability and timelines standards as other parts of the
14 system; and

1 Whereas, the required expansion of public transit to address the climate crisis
2 provides an unprecedented opportunity to continue the tradition of Rosa Parks and
3 the Civil Rights Movement by ensuring that transit systems are affordable and
4 accessible and that people of color, economically disadvantaged people, people with
5 disabilities, and other marginalized populations have full access to the benefits of
6 public transit; and

7 Whereas, the expansion of public transit provides an unprecedented
8 opportunity to create a large number of good, environmentally sustainable,
9 high-skill, family-supporting transit operation jobs, as well as construction jobs for
10 building new transit facilities; and

11 Whereas, increased community access to public transit enforces a reduction in
12 racial, economic, and other disparities while building mobile equity within the
13 community now, therefore, be it

14 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** that the day of
15 February 4, 2024, shall be designated as Transit Equity Day in Wisconsin.

16 **(END)**