



**FILED**  
AUG 11 '07 -1 35 PM  
SECRETARY OF STATE, INDEX DEPT.

**SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**  
PROCLAMATION

2007-266

WHEREAS, the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) is the financial oversight and regional planning body for the three public transit operators in northeastern Illinois: the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), Metra commuter rail and Pace suburban bus; and

WHEREAS, the RTA is an important public asset that generates an annual economic impact of more than \$12 billion to the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, over two million riders per day use the CTA, Metra commuter rail and Pace suburban bus; and

WHEREAS, downstate public transportation provides access to health care, the work place, and educational activities for individuals in Illinois' many downstate communities; and

WHEREAS, strengthening Illinois' transit system will enhance residents' quality of life by reducing pollution as well as traffic congestion; and

WHEREAS, revenues to support transit are not keeping up with increased maintenance, repair and transit costs potentially necessitating additional State funding; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution requires the General Assembly to make appropriations for the expenditure of public funds for the fiscal year for State departments, authorities, and public agencies;

THEREFORE, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5 (b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby call and convene the 95<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, in duly constituted quorums capable of conducting business, in a special session to commence on August 12, 2007, at 5:15 p.m., to consider funding for the Regional Transportation Authority, the Chicago Transit Authority, and downstate public transportation.

ROD BLAGOJEVICH  
Governor

Dated: August 11, 2007