



HJ0044

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois General Assembly wish to recognize and appreciate the heroism which took place the morning of March 16, 2017 by Highland FIRE-EMS Paramedic Todd Zobrist, Paramedic Ty Barr, Highland Police Department Sergeant Aric Steinbeck, Officer Shawn Bland, Officer Heather Kunz, and Officer Chris Clewis; and

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WHEREAS, At 5:30 a.m., Todd Zobrist and Ty Barr had already worked nearly a 24-hour shift when they responded to an emergency at Silver Lake, where an SUV was partially submerged; and

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WHEREAS, When Todd Zobrist and Ty Barr arrived at Silver Lake, they could still see the headlights from the SUV beaming through the cold water; and

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WHEREAS, They knew they must act fast knowing that firefighters with a boat and special diving gear were stuck at a railroad crossing; and

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WHEREAS, Todd Zobrist swam 75 feet in life-threatening 46 degree water, where he found an infant boy floating inside the SUV; and

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1 WHEREAS, Todd Zobrist performed CPR on the baby boy while
2 on the roof of the SUV; the baby boy began to breathe on his
3 own; and

4 WHEREAS, After about seven minutes since arriving on the
5 scene, in dark, cold conditions, Todd Zobrist brought the
6 infant back to shore safely; and

7 WHEREAS, Officer Shawn Bland assisted paramedics to get the
8 baby and the now hypothermic paramedic, Todd Zobrist, into the
9 ambulance to be rushed to the hospital; and

10 WHEREAS, Officer Heather Kunz provided resuscitation
11 efforts and warming to the baby in the ambulance; and

12 WHEREAS, Officer Chris Clewis drove the ambulance to the
13 hospital so that paramedic Ty Barr could care for the baby and
14 his partner, Todd Zobrist; and

15 WHEREAS, Police Sergeant Aric Steinbeck kept the emergency
16 scene under control and handled important communications while
17 others were occupied; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
19 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE
20 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we recognize and show our sincere

1 gratitude for the heroic actions taken by Highland FIRE-EMS
2 paramedics Todd Zobrist and Ty Barr, and Highland Police
3 Officers Sergeant Aric Steinbeck, Officer Shawn Bland, Officer
4 Heather Kunz, and Officer Chris Clewis; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
6 presented to Paramedic Todd Zobrist, Paramedic Ty Barr,
7 Sergeant Aric Steinbeck, Officer Shawn Bland, Officer Heather
8 Kunz, and Officer Chris Clewis as a symbol of our admiration
9 and respect.