



HR0400

LRB100 12690 MST 26114 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Benjamin O. Davis was born on July 1, 1877 in Washington, D.C.; he entered the military on July 13, 1898 as a first lieutenant of the 8th United States Volunteer Infantry, an all-black unit; his first independent command began in 1938, commanding the 369th National Guard Infantry Regiment; he held multiple posts during his career, and after 42 years of loyal service, he became the first black American general officer with his promotion to brigadier general on October 25, 1940; and

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WHEREAS, Benjamin O. Davis VFW Post 311 was founded in August of 2002 and marks its 15th anniversary in 2017; it relocated to Richton Park in 2009; its mission is to honor its namesake and comrades by supporting the community and empowering veterans through job fairs, health screenings, and counseling; and

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WHEREAS, Benjamin O. Davis VFW Post 311 was recognized by receiving "All American" status for its dedication to the community in 2013, and again in 2017; it also received the "2013 National Outstanding Community Service Award" from the National VFW for its work from May of 2012 to May of 2013; and

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WHEREAS, Benjamin O. Davis VFW Post 311 has supported

1 veterans and their families through various events such as
2 blood drives, parades, and outreach events; it is treasured by
3 the community and helps local governmental units and community
4 based organizations; its advocacy also includes support of the
5 National Home in Michigan; and

6 WHEREAS, Benjamin O. Davis VFW Post 311 is holding its
7 Fourth Annual Commanders Ball/Scholarship Awards Dinner on
8 June 24, 2017, and will award six \$1,000 scholarships this
9 year; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
11 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
12 recognize Benjamin O. Davis VFW Post 311 on its 15th
13 anniversary and thank the members for their commitment to the
14 betterment of the community and their support for veterans; and
15 be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the members of Benjamin O. Davis VFW Post 311 as a
18 symbol of our respect and esteem.