



HJ0042

LRB101 11248 MST 56543 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that the Illinois General  
3 Assembly pays honor and respect to the truly great individuals  
4 who have served our country and, in doing so, have made the  
5 ultimate sacrifice for our nation; and

6 WHEREAS, William "Bill" Campbell was born to Ida Marie and  
7 Kenneth Campbell on October 24, 1948; he was one of eight  
8 children along with brother, Robert Dean Campbell, and sisters,  
9 Sandy Painter, Betty Evans, Judy Buchanan, Joyce Borchers,  
10 Janet Barker, and Jeanne Taylor; and

11 WHEREAS, Bill Campbell graduated in June of 1968 from  
12 Gibson City High School at a trying time for many young men due  
13 to the heavy involvement of the United States in the Vietnam  
14 War; and

15 WHEREAS, Like many others facing the draft, Bill Campbell  
16 was called to serve in the U.S. Army on August 12, 1968; and

17 WHEREAS, Just under a year into his service on August 2,  
18 1969, Bill Campbell was killed in action, the first and only  
19 casualty from Gibson City; and

20 WHEREAS, Bill Campbell received several recognitions for

1 his actions in Vietnam; among them was the Silver Star, which  
2 was presented to his mother Ida, for the time he "distinguished  
3 himself as a leader in Company B, First Airborne Battalion  
4 501st Infantry during a search and clear operation near the  
5 city of Tam Ky, Republic of Vietnam"; and

6 WHEREAS, In addition to his Silver Star, Bill Campbell  
7 received the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Good Conduct  
8 Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service  
9 Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, and the Combat Infantryman  
10 Badge; and

11 WHEREAS, Bill Campbell's heroism and willingness to  
12 sacrifice his own well-being was an inspiration to his entire  
13 platoon; his bravery and devotion to duty and his fellow  
14 soldiers were in keeping with the highest traditions of  
15 military service; and

16 WHEREAS, Bill Campbell's actions reflect positively on  
17 himself, his family, his unit, and the U.S. Army; therefore, be  
18 it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
20 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
21 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate Illinois Route 47  
22 as it travels through Gibson City as the "Col. William "Bill"

1 Campbell Memorial Highway"; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation  
3 is requested to erect, at suitable locations consistent with  
4 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs  
5 giving notice of the name of the "Col. William "Bill" Campbell  
6 Memorial Highway"; and be it further

7       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
8 presented to the family of Bill Campbell, the Mayor of Gibson  
9 City, and the Secretary of Transportation.