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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is appropriate and right to honor those great
3 American figures who have served our nation in public office;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, President Barack Hussein Obama is the pride of
6 Chicago and Illinois; he began his professional life in Chicago
7 as a community organizer; he attended Harvard Law School, where
8 he was the first African American president of the Harvard Law
9 Review; he taught constitutional law at the University of
10 Chicago Law School for 12 years; and

11 WHEREAS, President Obama represented the 13th Senate
12 District in the Illinois Senate from 1997 to 2004; he garnered
13 respect and passed multiple progressive bipartisan
14 legislation; and

15 WHEREAS, President Obama was elected United States Senator
16 from Illinois with a strong mandate of 70% of the vote; his bid
17 for the presidency was a similar success, creating an
18 impressive coalition and making history as the first African
19 American president; and

20 WHEREAS, As President, Barack Obama was given command of
21 the federal government during the most troubling months of the

1 worst economic recession since the Great Depression and brought
2 the country back from the brink of financial free-fall; he
3 signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
4 which saved the nation from the worst of the recession's
5 effects; he also signed into law the Dodd-Frank financial
6 institution regulations in order to help the nation avoid
7 another economic catastrophe; and

8 WHEREAS, President Obama reduced the number of U.S. troops
9 committed internationally; he signed the Paris Agreement and
10 negotiated a successful Iran nuclear deal; he oversaw the
11 opening of relations between the U.S. and Cuba; he served the
12 United States with integrity and distinction and improved the
13 image of the U.S. abroad; and

14 WHEREAS, President Obama fought for and signed the
15 Affordable Care Act, providing healthcare to millions and
16 protecting millions more from being denied for pre-existing
17 conditions; he also urged the Supreme Court to strike down
18 same-sex marriage bans and he repealed the "don't ask don't
19 tell" policy; and

20 WHEREAS, President Obama served with distinction and
21 dignity and the Illinois General Assembly would like to
22 preserve his honor for generations to come; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE
3 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate the entirety of Interstate
4 294 of the Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and
5 Defense Highways as the "President Barack Obama Tollway" in
6 recognition of President Barack Obama's dedication to public
7 service as an Illinois State Senator, U.S. Senator from
8 Illinois, and President of the United States of America; and be
9 it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation
11 is requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with
12 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs
13 giving notice of the name "President Barack Obama Tollway"; and
14 be it further

15 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution will be
16 distributed to the Director of the Illinois State Toll Highway
17 Authority and President Barack Obama.