



SJ0035

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1 SENATE 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, Senior Chief Petty Officer William "Ryan" Owens of
7 Peoria, enlisted in the United States Navy in August of 1998;
8 he entered Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL (BUD/S) Training
9 in Coronado, California on June 14, 2001; he graduated in
10 September of 2002, after six months of the most grueling and
11 demanding training in the military; and

12 WHEREAS, Senior Chief Owens was a highly decorated combat
13 veteran with numerous awards and 12 deployments; his awards
14 include the Silver Star, the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, three
15 Bronze Star Medals with Valor, a Bronze Star Medal, a Purple
16 Heart Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Joint
17 Service Commendation Medals with Valor, two Navy and Marine
18 Corps Commendation Medals, the Joint Service Achievement
19 Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and
20 numerous other personal and unit decorations; and

21 WHEREAS, On January 29, 2017, Senior Chief Owens died from
22 wounds sustained while in combat supporting overseas

1 contingency operations; and

2 WHEREAS, Senior Chief Owens is survived by his wife, their
3 three children, and his father; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
6 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate Illinois Route 29 within
7 the Chillicothe city limits as the "Senior Chief Petty Officer
8 William "Ryan" Owens Memorial Highway"; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation
10 is requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with
11 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs
12 giving notice of the name the "Senior Chief Petty Officer
13 William "Ryan" Owens Memorial Highway"; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of Senior Chief Owens, Chillicothe
16 Mayor Douglas P. Crew, and the Secretary of the Department of
17 Transportation.