



HJ0078

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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that the Illinois General
3 Assembly pays honor and respect to those individuals whose
4 lives have made a difference in their community and in
5 Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, Kelli Joy O'Laughlin was born on April 2, 1997,
7 the beloved daughter of Brenda (Pankow) and John O'Laughlin;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Kelli Joy O'Laughlin grew up in Indian Head Park
10 and attended Highlands Grade School and Middle School before
11 going to Lyons Township High School in the fall of 2011; and

12 WHEREAS, Kelli Joy O'Laughlin was an extremely kind
13 individual and was loved by everyone she encountered; and

14 WHEREAS, On October 27, 2011, Kelli Joy O'Laughlin's life
15 was tragically taken by a burglar in her own home after school
16 that day; and

17 WHEREAS, Kelli Joy O'Laughlin was the adored sister of Ryan
18 (Melissa), Bridgette, and Daniel Douglas; the loving aunt of
19 Norah; the cherished granddaughter of Al and Carole Pankow and
20 the late James and late Joy O'Laughlin; the fond niece of Terry

1 (Kathy), Tom, Sandy, and Tim Pankow, James Jr. (Fran)
2 O'Laughlin, and Marianne (Lowell) Richardson; the cousin of
3 Dustin and Christopher Pankow, Giana and Alexis Gutierrez,
4 Michael O'Laughlin, and Grant and Warren Richardson; and friend
5 of many; and

6 WHEREAS, The Kelli Joy O'Laughlin Memorial Fund was
7 established by Kelli's family to keep her memory alive through
8 future educational opportunities for young people; and

9 WHEREAS, The Kelli Joy O'Laughlin Memorial Fund has held
10 numerous events to raise funds and be an active part of the
11 community; these events include golf outings, car washes, the
12 Kelli O'Laughlin Benefit Concert, and the 1st annual Run for
13 Kelli 5k with a course that winds its way around Lyons Township
14 High School's South Campus, following their cross country
15 course, where Kelli attended school as a freshman in 2011; and

16 WHEREAS, The Kelli Joy O'Laughlin Memorial Foundation has
17 continued her legacy of "joy", by providing scholarships to
18 graduating high school seniors who attended high schools in the
19 Chicagoland area; it has given out over 75 scholarships with a
20 total value of \$537,500; and

21 WHEREAS, The community has not forgotten Kelli Joy
22 O'Laughlin's life and have used cups to create signs of

1 remembrance on the overpass on Interstate 294; and

2 WHEREAS, It is fitting that we provide a lasting honor to
3 the memory of Kelli Joy O'Laughlin; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
6 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate the Plainfield Road
7 Bridge over Interstate 294 as the "Kelli Joy O'Laughlin
8 Memorial Bridge"; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Toll Highway Authority is
10 requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with State
11 and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs giving
12 notice of the name of the "Kelli Joy O'Laughlin Memorial
13 Bridge"; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of Kelli Joy O'Laughlin, the Illinois
16 Toll Highway Authority, and the Kelli Joy O'Laughlin Memorial
17 Fund.