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LRB101 20577 MST 70202 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 Eugene Campbell was born to Ida Marie and
7 Kenneth Campbell on October 24, 1948; he was one of eight
8 children along with his brother, Robert Dean Campbell, and his
9 six sisters, Sandy Painter, Betty Evans, Judy Buchanan, Joyce
10 Borchers, Janet Barker, and Jeanne Taylor; and

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

15 WHEREAS, Like many others facing the draft, William Eugene
16 Campbell was called to serve in the U.S. Army on August 12,
17 1968; and

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

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

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

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

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

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
21 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
22 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate Illinois Route 47

1 as it travels through Gibson City as the "Vietnam Veteran
2 William Eugene Campbell Memorial Highway"; and be it further

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

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