



HR0177

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On the afternoon of Friday, February 15, 2019,
3 officers from the Aurora Police Department and the Aurora Fire
4 Department responded to a call that is, sadly, becoming an
5 increasingly common occurrence; reports of an active shooter
6 quickly shrouded the day in tragedy and unsettled not only one
7 community in Illinois but an entire nation; the malicious
8 actions of one individual forever changed the lives of many;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The events of that tragic day have become yet
11 another chapter in the lives of the seemingly ever-increasing
12 victims of senseless, inexplicable violence that has plagued
13 our nation and our homes; and

14 WHEREAS, The violence that occurred on the grounds of the
15 Henry Pratt Company on that sullen 15th day of February may
16 never be entirely understood, resolved, or healed in the hearts
17 and minds of the those impacted by this tragedy; the loss of
18 five innocent lives, Clayton Parks of Elgin, Trevor Wehner of
19 DeKalb, Russell Beyer of Yorkville, Vicente Juarez of Oswego,
20 and Josh Pinkard of Oswego, will never be forgotten; the
21 innocent lives taken will always remain in our memories; and

22 WHEREAS, There was much loss on that fateful day, however,

1 the brave, steadfast response of the Aurora Police Department
2 and the Aurora Fire Department prevented any further civilian
3 casualties; the actions taken by the numerous members of law
4 enforcement, without a doubt, helped prevent the losses from
5 being any greater; and

6 WHEREAS, Everyday, law enforcement agencies and first
7 responders throughout this country are increasingly impacted
8 by acts of violence; at all times, our members of law
9 enforcement are prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice to
10 serve and protect their communities; the selfless acts of the
11 Aurora Police Department on that day followed through with that
12 directive; and

13 WHEREAS, Unfortunately, the commitment to public safety
14 has difficult consequences, and, although gratefully no
15 officers were fatally wounded while responding to the Henry
16 Pratt Company shooting, six officers sustained critical
17 injuries; in the words of Aurora Police Department Chief
18 Kristen Ziman, these six officers, by the names of John
19 Cebulski, James Zegar, Reynaldo Rivera, Marco Gomez, Adam
20 Miller, and Diego Avila, are the "true heroes, and we honor
21 them for their selfless service to the citizens of Aurora"; and

22 WHEREAS, The courageous actions taken by the many members
23 of law enforcement and first responders saved lives on February

1 15th; they did the job that they are always expected to do, but
2 it is one that almost always goes unrewarded and unappreciated;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we commend the valiant efforts of the Aurora Police Department,
7 the Aurora Fire Department, 9-1-1 operators, and the numerous
8 other law enforcement agencies and first responders for the
9 incredible resilience they showed during the tragic events that
10 took place on February 15, 2019 at the Henry Pratt Company; and
11 be it further

12 RESOLVED, That we stand with and support the families of
13 all those who were impacted by the tragic events in the City of
14 Aurora; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
16 presented to the Aurora Police Department, the Aurora Fire
17 Department, and the Office of the Mayor of Aurora as a symbol
18 of our appreciation and respect.