



HJ0032

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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 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, SP4 William Eugene Campbell was born to Ida Marie
7 and Kenneth Campbell on October 24, 1948; he was one of eight
8 children along with his brother, Bob Campbell, and his six
9 sisters, Sandy Painter, Betty Evans, Judy Buchanan, Joyce
10 Borchers, Janet Barker, and Jeanne Taylor; and

11 WHEREAS, SP4 Campbell graduated in June of 1968 from
12 Gibson City High School at a trying time for many young men due
13 to the heavy involvement of the United States in the Vietnam
14 War; and

15 WHEREAS, Like many others facing the draft, SP4 Campbell
16 was called to serve in the U.S. Army on August 12, 1968; and

17 WHEREAS, Just under a year into his service on August 2,
18 1969, SP4 Campbell was killed in action, the first and only
19 casualty from Gibson City; and

20 WHEREAS, SP4 Campbell received several recognitions for

1 his actions in Vietnam, including the Silver Star, which was
2 presented to his mother Ida, for the time he "distinguished
3 himself as a leader in Company B, First Airborne Battalion,
4 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, USARV, during a
5 search and clear operation near the city of Tam Ky, Republic of
6 Vietnam"; and

7 WHEREAS, In addition to his Silver Star, SP4 Campbell
8 received the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Good Conduct
9 Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service
10 Medal with one Bronze Service Star, the Vietnam Campaign
11 Ribbon, and the Combat Infantryman Badge; and

12 WHEREAS, SP4 Campbell's heroism and willingness to
13 sacrifice his own well-being was an inspiration to his entire
14 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, SP4 Campbell's actions reflect positively on
18 himself, his family, his unit, and the U.S. Army; therefore,
19 be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
21 HUNDRED SECOND 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 SP4
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 "SP4 William Eugene Campbell
7 Memorial Highway"; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the family of SP4 Campbell, the Mayor of Gibson
10 City, and the Secretary of Transportation.