



HJ0051

LRB102 19178 MST 27943 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 State and, in doing so, have made the  
5 ultimate sacrifice for our safety; and

6 WHEREAS, Officer Chris Oberheim was born in Decatur on  
7 October 31, 1976; and

8 WHEREAS, Officer Chris Oberheim began his career in law  
9 enforcement at the Decatur Police Department in 2000, where he  
10 quickly became a respected officer who led by quiet example  
11 and maintained a sense of humility even when receiving  
12 recognition for his heroic actions; he always looked forward  
13 to playing in the annual Illinois Police Benevolent and  
14 Protective Association State Softball Tournament and making  
15 memories with his fellow officers, whose friendships he  
16 treasured; and

17 WHEREAS, Officer Chris Oberheim transferred to the  
18 Champaign Police Department in 2008, where he continued to  
19 protect and serve his community; during his tenure, he  
20 received two Medals of Valor for his courageous acts of  
21 selfless bravery; and

1           WHEREAS, Officer Chris Oberheim dedicated a great deal of  
2 his time off-duty to coaching several successful girls'  
3 softball teams; his influence on the field was felt by many who  
4 loved and respected him; and

5           WHEREAS, Officer Chris Oberheim was not only a police  
6 officer but also a son, brother, husband, father, beloved  
7 coach, trusted friend, and respected leader; he valued his  
8 family as his first priority, and his four daughters were his  
9 absolute pride and joy; he will be remembered for being a  
10 devoted public servant, a family tradition further continued  
11 by his younger brother and his cousin who both serve as Decatur  
12 police officers; and

13           WHEREAS, Officer Chris Oberheim was preceded in death by  
14 his sister, LeighAnn, and his grandfather, Neil Ganley; and

15           WHEREAS, Officer Oberheim is survived by his wife, Amber;  
16 his daughters, Hannah, Avery, Addison, and Aubree; his  
17 parents, Ted and Mary Ann Oberheim; his siblings, Greg  
18 (Michelle), Amy, Matt (Jennifer), Joe (Chelsea), and Sarah  
19 (Jason); his in-laws; and his nieces and nephews; therefore,  
20 be it

21           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
22 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE

1 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate South Side Drive  
2 in Decatur from Route 51 to Route 48 as the "Officer Chris  
3 Oberheim Memorial Highway"; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation  
5 is requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with  
6 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs  
7 giving notice of the name of the "Officer Chris Oberheim  
8 Memorial Highway"; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
10 presented to the family of Officer Chris Oberheim, the  
11 Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation, the  
12 Champaign Police Department, the Decatur Police Department,  
13 and the Mayor of the City of Decatur.