



HJ0088

LRB102 26982 MST 38208 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, A grateful nation cannot forget and must remember
3 the many sacrifices and contributions to the cause of freedom
4 made by the outstanding men and women who served in the Korean
5 War; and

6 WHEREAS, The Korean War has played an important part in
7 American history, and the veterans of the Korean War have
8 earned the respect and admiration of all people; and

9 WHEREAS, The Korean War began when communist North Korea
10 invaded South Korea on June 25, 1950; and

11 WHEREAS, The United States secured a resolution from the
12 United Nations calling for the military defense of South Korea
13 against the North Korean aggression, and in a matter of days,
14 U.S. land, air, and sea forces had joined the battle; and

15 WHEREAS, Between June 25, 1950 and July 27, 1953,
16 approximately 5,720,000 Americans served in the military, many
17 of whom were stationed in Korea; and

18 WHEREAS, An estimated 298,000 citizens from the State of
19 Illinois served during the Korean War; and

1 WHEREAS, A total of 33,700 soldiers, sailors, marines, and
2 Air Force personnel were killed in Korea, and more than
3 100,000 were wounded; and

4 WHEREAS, In total, 1,789 members of the Armed Forces from
5 Illinois never returned home from Korea, including 396
6 POW/MIAs who remain unaccounted for; and

7 WHEREAS, The Korean Armistice Agreement was signed after
8 three years of war; the two sides agreed to create a 2.5-mile
9 buffer zone between the states, known as the Korean
10 Demilitarized Zone, reflecting the territory held by each side
11 at the end of the war, which crosses the 38th parallel
12 diagonally; and

13 WHEREAS, Franklin County shares a unique latitudinal line,
14 the 38th parallel, with the historical boundary between North
15 and South Korea; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
17 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
18 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate the section of
19 Interstate 57 in the City of Benton as the "38th Parallel
20 Korean Veteran Highway"; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation

1 is requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with
2 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs
3 giving notice of the name of the "38th Parallel Korean Veteran
4 Highway"; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
6 presented to the Korean War Veterans Association and the
7 Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation.