



HR0976

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to commend Chief Warrant Officer Christopher L. "Chris" Murdoch for his decades of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Illinois and the United States of America; and

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WHEREAS, Chris Murdoch enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1982 and attended basic training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center in North Chicago; after graduation, he attended training as an aviation electrician's mate at the Naval Air Training Center in Millington, Tennessee followed by Aircrew Candidate School at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida; and

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WHEREAS, Chris Murdoch then volunteered to be a swimmer for Search and Rescue, attending Rescue Swimmer School at the Naval Air Station on North Island, California; he then joined his first squadron, Helicopter Combat Support Squadron One (HC-1), as a crew chief and rescue swimmer on a Sikorsky SH-3G Sea King helicopter in 1984; and

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WHEREAS, Chris Murdoch transferred to HC-1, Detachment 6 onboard the U.S.S. Blue Ridge (LCC 19) in Yokosuka, Japan in 1987, where he remained posted for three years; while attached

1 to HC-1, he accumulated more than 1,500 hours of helicopter  
2 crew time; and

3 WHEREAS, Chris Murdoch volunteered to attend Flight  
4 Engineer training for the Boeing E-6A Mercury Airborne Command  
5 Post and Communications Relay aircraft in 1990; he joined  
6 Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron Three (VQ-3) at the Naval  
7 Air Station in Barbers Point, Hawaii; while there, he  
8 accumulated more than 1,840 hours of multi-engine heavy jet  
9 crew time; he and his squadron were relocated to the Tinker Air  
10 Force Base in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma in 1992; and

11 WHEREAS, With the reduction in size of the military upon  
12 the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War,  
13 Chris Murdoch chose to leave the U.S. Navy to attend college  
14 and further his education in 1994; he received his Bachelor of  
15 Business Administration in Management Information Systems  
16 (MIS) from the University of Central Oklahoma in 1998 and his  
17 Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Illinois State  
18 University in 2001; immediately after earning his bachelor's  
19 degree, he was recruited by State Farm Insurance, beginning  
20 his career at the company's corporate headquarters in  
21 Bloomington; and

22 WHEREAS, In response to the terrorist attacks in September  
23 2001, Chris Murdoch joined the Illinois Army National Guard

1 (ILARNG) in 2003; he deployed with the 33rd Military Police  
2 Battalion Headquarters Detachment to Iraq from June 2006 to  
3 September 2007, where he served as the property book  
4 noncommissioned officer (NCO); and

5 WHEREAS, Chris Murdoch attended Army Warrant Officer  
6 Candidate School at Fort Rucker, Alabama in April 2008 and was  
7 pinned as a warrant officer one (WO1); shortly after returning  
8 to Illinois, he was called to flood duty for several weeks on  
9 the Mississippi River near Pleasant Hill while with the 232nd  
10 in Springfield; he joined the 404th Maneuver Enhancement  
11 Brigade in 2010 during its transition from a Chemical Brigade  
12 based in Chicago to a Maneuver Enhancement Brigade and its  
13 eventual geographic relocation to Normal; and

14 WHEREAS, During his time in the ILARNG, Chris Murdoch has  
15 participated in over a dozen Warfighter exercises as well as  
16 numerous other training activities; his rare and unique dual  
17 MOS training, skills, and knowledge as both a 251A and as an  
18 140A warrant officer provides him much expertise; he has  
19 participated in international exercises in Poland, South  
20 Korea, and Malawi; he has also supported numerous National  
21 Guard units, both inside and outside Illinois with his Air  
22 Defense and ADA C2 Systems Integration knowledge and  
23 expertise; in 2020, he deployed to Ukraine for over 10 months  
24 as part of the Joint Multinational Training Group-Ukraine; and

1           WHEREAS, Chris Murdoch's military education includes both  
2 U.S. Navy and U.S. Army courses, Aviation Electrician's Mate A  
3 school, Naval Aircrew Candidate School, Aviation Rescue  
4 Swimmer School, Deep Water Survival Training, Survival,  
5 Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) Level C Training,  
6 Desert Survival Training, Aviation Rescue Swimmer Instructor  
7 School, Jungle Survival Training, 6A Mercury Flight Engineer  
8 Training, 92Y Army Unit Supply Specialists MOS School, Small  
9 Arms Instructor & Range Operations Training, U.S. Army Warrant  
10 Officer Candidate School, 251A Information Systems Warrant  
11 Officer Basic Course, 140A-Air and Missile Defense (AMD)  
12 Systems Integrator Basic Course, 140A-Air and Missile Defense  
13 (AMD) Systems Integrator Advanced Course, Air Defense &  
14 Airspace Management (ADAM) Reset Course, and Multi-Tactical  
15 Data Link Planners Course; and

16           WHEREAS, Chris Murdoch's military awards and commendations  
17 include the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal,  
18 Army Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Meritorious Unit  
19 Commendation, Navy "E" Ribbon, Army Good Conduct Medal, Navy  
20 Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal,  
21 National Defense Service Ribbon with Bronze Star, Global War  
22 on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal with two  
23 Campaign Stars, Army Service Ribbon, Army Overseas Service  
24 Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Mobilization Device,

1 Navy Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Army Reserve Overseas  
2 Training Ribbon, Illinois Military Long and Honorable Service  
3 Medal, Illinois Military Attendance Ribbon, Illinois State  
4 Active Duty Award, Abraham Lincoln Medal of Freedom, and Naval  
5 Aircrew Badge; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
7 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
8 we commend Chief Warrant Officer 4 Christopher "Chris" Murdoch  
9 for decades of dedicated service to the citizens of the State  
10 of Illinois and the United States of America, and we wish him  
11 many happy and fulfilling years in retirement; and be it  
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
14 presented to Chris Murdoch and his family as an expression of  
15 our esteem and respect.