



HR0072

LRB103 30587 LAW 57026 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Major General Rodney Boyd
4 on the occasion of his recent promotion in the Illinois
5 National Guard; and

6 WHEREAS, MG Boyd was promoted to major general on February
7 4, 2023, becoming the highest-ranking officer of color in the
8 nearly 300-year history of the Illinois National Guard; and

9 WHEREAS, MG Boyd grew up near Comiskey Park on the South
10 Side of Chicago and attended Wendell Phillips High School; he
11 earned his bachelor's degree in Criminology from Northern
12 Illinois University, his Master of Arts in Education from the
13 University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, and his Master of
14 Arts in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College; and

15 WHEREAS, In civilian life, MG Boyd served as chief of the
16 Village of Bellwood Police Department, retiring in 2013, and
17 also worked in the private sector; and

18 WHEREAS, MG Boyd began his military career as a reservist
19 for the U.S. Marine Corps in 1982; after completing his
20 obligation with the Marines, he joined the Illinois Army
21 National Guard and attended the Illinois Army National Guard

1 Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Camp Lincoln in Springfield
2 in April 1989; upon completion in August 1990, he was
3 commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Quartermaster
4 Corps; and

5 WHEREAS, MG Boyd's military education, in addition to
6 completing Basic Training and OCS, includes the Quartermaster
7 Officer Basic Course, the Quartermaster Officer Advance
8 Course, the Transportation Officer Advance Course, the
9 Combined Arms and Services Staff School (CAS3), the
10 Intermediate Leadership Education Course, the Theater
11 Sustainment Command Course, the Combat Service Support
12 Pre-Command Course, the Joint Combined Warfighter
13 School-Hybrid, and the Dual Status Commander Course; and

14 WHEREAS, MG Boyd has held many leadership and staff
15 positions during his more than 35 years of service in the
16 Illinois National Guard; prior to his elevation to major
17 general, he was promoted to brigadier general in March 2020,
18 becoming only the second Black American to hold this title; he
19 then assumed the role of assistant adjutant general in July
20 2021, becoming the first Black American to ever command the
21 State's 10,000 Army National Guard citizen-soldiers; and

22 WHEREAS, MG Boyd has earned a number of military awards
23 and decorations, including the Legion of Merit, the Bronze

1 Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the
2 Meritorious Service Medal (2nd Award), the National Defense
3 Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, the Iraq Campaign
4 Medal with one Campaign Star, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal
5 with one Campaign Star, the Global War on Terrorism Service
6 Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, MG Boyd is married to Darlene Boyd, and they have
9 two adult sons, Rodney Jr. and Randy, and one grandson;
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
12 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
13 we congratulate Major General Rodney Boyd on his promotion and
14 thank him for his continued service to the State of Illinois
15 and the United States; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to MG Boyd as an expression of our esteem and
18 respect.