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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Lance Cpl. Phillip E. Frank of Elk Grove Village on April 7, 2004 near the towns of Fallujah and Ramadi in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq; and

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WHEREAS, Phillip E. Frank was born on July 5, 1983 and grew up in Cliffwood Beach, New Jersey; and

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WHEREAS, He moved to Illinois shortly after his high school graduation in the summer of 2002, and lived with his beloved cousins, Robin and Gary Van Cleave in Deerfield; and

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WHEREAS, Phillip Frank learned karate growing up not to defend himself but to protect other kids who were being teased; he was a sensitive, empathetic person who genuinely cared for other people's pain; when the terrorists attacked the United States in 2001, he wanted to join the Marines to ensure that kind of violence didn't hit close to his friends and family ever again; and

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WHEREAS, He met his future wife, Keri, in eighth grade, she was the "new kid" in their New Jersey school; he was the popular guy who took her under his wing; his relationship with Keri went from friendship to romance when she visited him the summer after graduation; he went to boot camp that fall and when they reunited in April, he proposed; four months later, the couple were married; she stated that her husband's commitment to protecting the nation and preventing further terrorist attacks is what led him to join the Marines; and

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WHEREAS, Phillip Frank joined the Marines in the fall of 2002; he was assigned to the Golf Company of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Regiment, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary

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1 Force based at Camp Pendleton, California; he was a proud  
2 Marine who loved his country and wanted all in this world to  
3 experience the freedom enjoyed in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, The National Defense Service Medal was awarded to  
5 Cpl. Frank for honorable active service; he was proud to be a  
6 Marine and loved his country and his willingness to serve our  
7 great nation led to him making the ultimate sacrifice; and

8 WHEREAS, The passing of Lance Cpl. Phillip E. Frank will be  
9 deeply felt by many, especially his wife, Keri (nee Johnson);  
10 his beloved parents, Roy and Georgette (nee LaScola); his  
11 loving sister, Cyndi; his aunts and uncles, Patty Phillips,  
12 Marilyn (Sal) Cordasco, Jackie (Mary Ann) LaScola, Anne  
13 Wohltman, and Joyce (Louis) Fishberg; his parents-in-law, Rip  
14 (Christine) Johnson; his brothers-in-law, J.C. and Kenny  
15 Johnson; and his many cousins; and

16 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his uncles, Robert  
17 Phillips and Ronald Wohltman; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL  
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that together with his  
20 family, friends, educators, community, and fellow members of  
21 the United States armed forces, we mourn the death of Lance  
22 Cpl. Phillip E. Frank, who will be remembered as an outgoing,  
23 happy-spirited, energetic young man who was loved by all and  
24 offer our deepest sympathy to all who knew and loved him; and  
25 be it further

26 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
27 presented to the family of Lance Cpl. Phillip E. Frank as an  
28 expression of our deepest sympathy.