



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The city of Mt. Vernon has won a 2005 Governor's
3 Home Town Award for its Veterans Memorial Project; and

4 WHEREAS, The Governor's Home Town Award program recognizes
5 citizens of Illinois who give unselfishly of their time, money,
6 and effort to make their communities better places to live and
7 work; and

8 WHEREAS, Three veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, David
9 Keen, Howard Phillips, and Alfred Bean, saw the need for a
10 permanent memorial to honor the men and women of Jefferson
11 County who have given their time and talents and, in some
12 cases, their lives in military service; the three men, having
13 heard from many veterans that such a memorial was long overdue,
14 determined that the Mt. Vernon City Park was an ideal location
15 for honoring the county's veterans; and

16 WHEREAS, The people of Jefferson County felt the same way
17 as the original planners, and a groundswell of support began
18 almost immediately; the Mt. Vernon and Jefferson County
19 community embraced this program fully; a committee of
20 individual volunteers representing various veterans groups,
21 active military personnel, individual veterans, and interested
22 citizens began the task of turning this dream into reality; the
23 group worked tirelessly to raise the needed funds to purchase a
24 monument and place it on the grounds of Veterans Park; no
25 public funds or grants were used for this project, which was
26 totally supported by volunteers and citizens; and

27 WHEREAS, The committee and volunteers participated in
28 fundraising activities, sold individual memorial bricks for
29 the walk path, provided labor and materials for the monument
30 and the beautifully landscaped grounds surrounding it;
31 volunteers continue the upkeep of the memorial by washing the

1 monument and providing maintenance of the landscaping; they
2 also assist with events held at the memorial; and

3 WHEREAS, Local citizens appreciate what the memorial
4 represents and take great pride in keeping the area a beautiful
5 place of remembrance; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
7 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
8 we recognize the city of Mt. Vernon for winning a 2005
9 Governor's Home Town Award and we congratulate David Keen,
10 Howard Phillips, Alfred Bean, and the citizens of Mt. Vernon
11 and Jefferson County for creating and maintaining the Veterans
12 Memorial; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
14 presented to the Mayor of Mt. Vernon and to David Keen, Howard
15 Phillips, and Alfred Bean.