



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Amy Oxford of Harrisburg and her mother, Kathy
3 Williams of Eldorado, began the Southern Illinois Yellow Ribbon
4 Campaign on March 19, 2003; and

5 WHEREAS, The Southern Illinois Yellow Ribbon Campaign is
6 dedicated to filling the needs and wants of overseas military
7 personnel and their families by sending personalized care
8 packages, cards, and letters; and

9 WHEREAS, The organization serves as a clearinghouse for
10 those who want to send care packages to the troops; each box is
11 packed according to individual wants and needs that service
12 members indicate on questionnaires provided in initial welcome
13 packages; and

14 WHEREAS, The large number of requests for care packages
15 convinced the leaders of the Southern Illinois Yellow Ribbon
16 Campaign to grow into a national effort; and

17 WHEREAS, The Campaign has received requests from over 2,500
18 troops serving overseas for care packages containing their
19 favorite foods, phone cards, toiletries, and other items; and

20 WHEREAS, Funds for the care packages and postage are
21 procured through fundraising efforts such as the "Holiday Hugs
22 for Our Heroes" Christmas fundraiser; and

23 WHEREAS, Ms. Oxford and Ms. Williams were honored as part
24 of "VOICES: One voice can lead to a chorus for change", a
25 program sponsored by Charming Shoppes Inc., and the Montel
26 Williams Show, which recognizes people who work to make a
27 difference in their community; and

28 WHEREAS, The Yellow Ribbon Campaign received \$20,000 from

1 VOICES to help the group pay for postage for the care packages;
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
5 we congratulate Amy Oxford and Kathy Williams on receiving the
6 VOICES award, and we thank them for creating and maintaining
7 the Yellow Ribbon Campaign with its tireless support of the men
8 and women who bravely defend our freedom overseas; and be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
11 presented to Ms. Oxford and Ms. Williams as an expression of
12 our gratitude for the service they are providing.