



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the  
3 State of Illinois acknowledge Lincoln's Challenge Academy,  
4 located in Rantoul, as the premier U.S.A. National Guard Bureau  
5 Challenge Academy; it has been in continuous operation since  
6 1993, giving Illinois at-risk school drop-outs a second chance  
7 to become productive and informed citizens and has graduated  
8 8,777 young men and women; and

9 WHEREAS, The majority of Academy graduates enroll in higher  
10 education institutions, Illinois Community Colleges, or  
11 vocational-technical schools, or enter the work force; and

12 WHEREAS, Approximately 15% of Illinois graduating Cadets  
13 enter the military to serve their country; and

14 WHEREAS, Since the inception of the war in Iraq, Academy  
15 graduate Cadets have been among the nation's youth to have made  
16 the supreme sacrifice of giving their lives in defense of  
17 America's freedom; and

18 WHEREAS, Because of their sacrifice and because other  
19 Cadets, teachers, and administrators have died, Illinois  
20 military veterans groups and the Friends of Lincoln's Challenge  
21 Memorial Committee are constructing a permanent memorial on the  
22 campus of Lincoln's Challenge Academy at Rantoul; and

23 WHEREAS, The permanent memorial is constructed to honor the  
24 memory of deceased Cadets and staff of Lincoln's Challenge  
25 Academy and will be formally dedicated on Memorial Day, May 29,  
26 2006, at 4:00 p.m.; therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
28 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
29 we acknowledge and honor the construction and dedication of the

1 Lincoln's Challenge Academy permanent memorial and pay our  
2 tribute to those who have passed; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4 presented to Lincoln's Challenge Academy as an expression of  
5 our esteem and respect for the lives that have been lost.