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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, All of us as Americans are called to remember the extraordinary price paid for our nation's freedom by the selfless men and women who have sacrificed their lives to preserve and protect our nation; and

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WHEREAS, We owe a special debt, not only to those brave Americans who have given their lives in service to our country, but also to those family members who loved those fallen warriors and who feel their loss every day; and

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WHEREAS, From the time of World War I, the Gold Star has been the traditional symbol of both pride and mourning for the grieving families of those men and women in the Armed Forces who have made the ultimate sacrifice for this country; and

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WHEREAS, Our Gold Star families have shown courage and compassion in the face of great personal sadness and continue to demonstrate their constant love of our country; and

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WHEREAS, The United States Congress has designated the last Sunday in September as "Gold Star Mother's Day" and authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day; and

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1           WHEREAS, It is proper for the people of Illinois to set  
2           aside a week of each year to honor the pride, perseverance,  
3           dignity, and devotion of those who have loved and lost  
4           America's fallen heroes; therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
6           NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
7           SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that the last Sunday in September and  
8           the six days following in 2007 and each succeeding year shall  
9           be known as Gold Star Families Week, and that everyone in the  
10          State of Illinois shall be encouraged to display the flag of  
11          the United States and find other appropriate means to publicly  
12          express love, sorrow, and reverence for our Gold Star families.