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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

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 2008 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.