



HR1007

LRB095 19931 GRL 46352 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of United States Army Specialist Matthew F. Straughter of St. Charles, Missouri, formerly of Belleville, who was killed in action in Baghdad, Iraq on January 31, 2008; and

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WHEREAS, Spc. Matthew F. Straughter joined the Missouri Army National Guard as a combat engineer in December 2005; he was assigned to the 1138th Engineer Company, 35th Engineer Brigade of the Missouri National Guard out of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri; his unit was mobilized in July of 2007; and

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WHEREAS, As a member of the 1138th Engineer Company, 35th Engineer Brigade, Spc. Matthew F. Straughter located improvised explosive devices and maintained traffic flow along military supply routes; and

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WHEREAS, Spc. Matthew F. Straughter served on Operation Jump Start, the border security mission in Arizona, from November of 2006 until June of 2007; and

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WHEREAS, Spc. Matthew F. Straughter was the recipient of several military medals, as well as the Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Missouri Basic Training Ribbon, and

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1 Arizona Community Service Ribbon, in recognition of his  
2 meritorious service; and

3 WHEREAS, Spc. Matthew F. Straughter was the dear husband of  
4 Thelma M. Straughter; the dear son of Perry and Elizabeth  
5 Vinson; the dear father of Matthew Jr., Serenity Renee, Donte,  
6 Justice, and the stepfather of Tavia; the dear son-in-law of  
7 Veronica King; and the dear brother of Andrew and Katherine;  
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
10 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
11 mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of United  
12 States Army Specialist Matthew F. Straughter; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That we honor the memory of Spc. Matthew F.  
14 Straughter and his willingness to serve our country, which led  
15 to him making the ultimate sacrifice; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
17 presented to the family of Spc. Matthew F. Straughter as an  
18 expression of our sympathy.