



HR1593

LRB095 22999 KXB 53474 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of United
4 States Army Sergeant John M. Penich of Beach Park, who was
5 killed while serving his country in Afghanistan; and

6 WHEREAS, John Penich was born January 6, 1983 and was
7 killed on October 16, 2008; he graduated from Zion-Benton
8 Township High School in 2001, graduating with honors; he
9 enjoyed the outdoors, mountain biking, riding four-wheelers,
10 hunting, paintball, and riding Harleys; and

11 WHEREAS, He was assigned to 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry,
12 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, out of Fort Hood, Texas,
13 known as "Viper Country"; and

14 WHEREAS, He was decorated as Soldier of the Year in 2007;
15 he received a Bronze Star with Valor and Single Oak Leaf
16 Cluster, the Combat Infantryman Badge, and was recommended for
17 the Silver Star; and

18 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his grandparents,
19 Elaine Weidner, Michael Penich Sr., and Jennie Penich; his
20 great-grandparents, Katherine Garross and Ned Hall; and his
21 great-great-grandmother, Eva Gallup; and

1 WHEREAS, Sergeant John Penich is survived by his mother and
2 step-father, Kathy and Mike Garross; his father and
3 step-mother, James and Diane Penich; his siblings, Jeff
4 (Nicole), Jim (Michelle), and Crystal (Pete) Barrett; his
5 grandparents, Donald and Pat Weidner and Roger and Barbara
6 Garross; his great-grandmother, Mary Hall; his nieces and
7 nephews, Autumn Long, Bryce and Eva Barrett, and Hailey and
8 Hunter Penich; the love of his life, Sarah Kelley; his dear
9 friend, Mikey Kitch; and other family members, friends, and
10 comrades; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
13 mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of
14 Sergeant John M. Penich; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That we honor the memory of Sergeant Penich and
16 his willingness to serve his country, which led to him making
17 the ultimate sacrifice; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of Sergeant John M. Penich, as a symbol
20 of our sincere sympathy.