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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Belleville  
4 astronaut Sandra Magnus on her trip into space aboard the space  
5 shuttle Endeavour; and

6           WHEREAS, Sandra Magnus was one of seven astronauts that  
7 lifted off on November 14, 2008 from NASA's Kennedy Space  
8 Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida, aboard NASA's space shuttle  
9 Endeavour; and

10           WHEREAS, The crew's main mission was to outfit the space  
11 station to support larger crews and perform necessary  
12 maintenance on the orbiting laboratory; the 15-day mission  
13 began with liftoff at 6:55 p.m; when the rest of the crew  
14 returned home, she remained in space; she replaced Flight  
15 Engineer Gregory E. Chamitoff, who returned to earth with the  
16 Endeavour crew; and

17           WHEREAS, She stayed on the space station for at least three  
18 months where she served as a flight engineer and NASA science  
19 officer; she also performed biological experiments on herself  
20 while aboard the space station; she held several  
21 space-to-school teleconferences with local schools during her  
22 time on the space station; the Endeavour crew packed about

1 32,000 pounds of equipment to accomplish the main purpose of  
2 its mission, preparing the space station for expansion; and

3 WHEREAS, Sandra Magnus has spent the past 10 years working  
4 on pieces of the space station on the ground; although she  
5 orbited the planet during the holidays last year, she was able  
6 to teleconference with her mother on Thanksgiving and  
7 Christmas; and

8 WHEREAS, During her time in space, she answered questions  
9 posed by school children and adults and gave commentary about  
10 her adventures; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
12 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
13 congratulate Sandra Magnus on her opportunity to travel in  
14 space and wish her the best in all her future endeavors; and be  
15 it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
17 presented to Sandra Magnus as a symbol of our sincere respect  
18 and esteem.