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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, On June 11, 2010, the City of Chicago held a Victory Parade and Championship Rally in downtown Chicago for the Chicago Blackhawks, who defeated the Philadelphia Flyers to become the 2010 National Hockey League Champions and winners of the Stanley Cup; and

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WHEREAS, On that date, approximately 2 million hockey fans flooded Chicago's downtown area to applaud the Chicago Blackhawks as the team's players, coaches, and family members marched from the United Center onto Michigan Avenue; the enthusiastic crowd roared with approval when, for the first time in nearly 50 years, the Stanley Cup was hoisted high in the air for all Chicagoans to see; and

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WHEREAS, The spectacular victory celebration took place on an unseasonably hot and humid day; by day's end, the Chicago Fire Department had answered approximately 180 calls for service in the downtown area, mostly for heat-related issues; and

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WHEREAS, Anticipating the many operational difficulties that might arise if a person succumbed to illness at an event of this magnitude, the Chicago Fire Department relied heavily on the well-tested ability of its Paramedic Bicycle Team to

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1 maneuver quickly through a large crowd to assist those in need  
2 of emergency medical care until an ambulance arrived on the  
3 scene to transport the sick person to a nearby hospital; and

4 WHEREAS, At approximately 11 A.M. on the day of the Victory  
5 Parade and Championship Rally, Paramedic-in-Charge Riki Kaelin  
6 and Firefighter/Paramedic Timothy Rottman of the Chicago Fire  
7 Department's Bicycle Team Number 1 received a call on their  
8 portable radio notifying them that a person on the east side of  
9 Michigan Avenue near Madison Avenue appeared to be having a  
10 heart attack; and

11 WHEREAS, In less than one minute, Bicycle Team Number 1  
12 arrived on the scene, where Paramedic-in-Charge Kaelin and  
13 Firefighter/Paramedic Rottman found a man sitting on a bench;  
14 weak and lethargic, the man was having extreme difficulty  
15 breathing; moments later, the man was completely unresponsive  
16 and had no palpable pulse; and

17 WHEREAS, Paramedic-in-Charge Kaelin and  
18 Firefighter/Paramedic Rottman immediately placed an automated  
19 external defibrillator on the man to check their patient's  
20 heart rhythm; the AED indicated that the man had an abnormally  
21 slow heart rhythm and that no shock treatment should be  
22 administered; and

1           WHEREAS, Armed with this information, Paramedic-in-Charge  
2 Kaelin and Firefighter/Paramedic Rottman ventilated their  
3 patient using a bag valve mask; within 4 minutes, the man's  
4 breathing and pulse were restored; shortly afterwards, he was  
5 transported by ambulance to an area hospital; and

6           WHEREAS, Due to the quick and astute action taken by  
7 Paramedic-in-Charge Riki Kaelin and Firefighter/Paramedic  
8 Timothy Rottman, their patient recovered and was eventually  
9 discharged from the hospital; and

10           WHEREAS, Meticulous preparation by a multitude of city  
11 departments working seamlessly together to ensure the public  
12 safety is required every time the City of Chicago hosts a  
13 large-scale event; and

14           WHEREAS, The concerted efforts of Paramedic-in-Charge Riki  
15 Kaelin and Firefighter/Paramedic Timothy Rottman to keep  
16 people safe from harm contributed immeasurably to the success  
17 of the Blackhawks' Victory Parade and Championship Rally;  
18 therefore, be it

19           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
20 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
21 applaud and thank Paramedic-in-Charge Riki Kaelin and  
22 Firefighter/Paramedic Timothy Rottman of the Chicago Fire

1 Department for their professionalism, dedication, and decisive  
2 action on behalf of the citizens of Chicago and wish them  
3 continued success and happiness in the future; and be it  
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
6 presented to Paramedic-in-Charge Riki Kaelin and  
7 Firefighter/Paramedic Timothy Rottman of the Chicago Fire  
8 Department as a symbol of our respect and esteem.