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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of United States Air Force Senior Airman Bradley Smith, who passed away on January 3, 2010, in Kandahar, Afghanistan; and

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WHEREAS, SrA Bradley Smith was born on September 11, 1985, in Little Rock, Arkansas; his parents are Gary and Paula, nee Forrest, Smith; he married Tiffany Finley on February 19, 2008, in Monterey, California; and

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WHEREAS, SrA Bradley Smith graduated from Triad High School in 2004; during high school, he was a member of the football team for all 4 years and was a member of the school's journalism program; and

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WHEREAS, On December 19, 2006, SrA Bradley Smith joined the United States Air Force; after basic training, where he was an honor graduate, he was assigned to the 10th Air Support Operations Squadron as a joint terminal attack controller in Fort Riley, Kansas and was highly trained in air assault, pathfinder, and airborne qualifications; he was awarded the Purple Heart for his service in Afghanistan; and

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WHEREAS, SrA Bradley Smith was previously a member at

1 Bethel Baptist Church, where he was active with the church's  
2 youth ministry; and

3 WHEREAS, SrA Bradley Smith was preceded in death by his  
4 maternal grandfather, retired Master Sergeant Jesie Forrest,  
5 and his paternal grandfather, Elmer Smith; and

6 WHEREAS, SrA Bradley Smith is survived by his wife,  
7 Tiffany; his parents, Gary and Paula; his daughter, Chloe Lynn  
8 Smith; his brother and fiancée, Staff Sergeant Gary Ryan Smith  
9 and Shawna Dorman; his paternal grandparents, retired Sergeant  
10 Major Don and Barbara McBeth and Rebecca Smith; his maternal  
11 grandmother, Fannie Mae Forrest; his mother-in-law and  
12 father-in-law, Stanley and Valerie Tucker; his sisters-in-law,  
13 Hannah and Jennifer Tucker; and his many other extended family  
14 members and dear friends; and

15 WHEREAS, SrA Bradley Smith's patriotism and courage will be  
16 remembered fondly by his loving family, his fellow soldiers,  
17 and the citizens of our grateful nation; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL  
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with  
20 his family and friends, the passing of Senior Airman Bradley  
21 Smith; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to the family of Senior Airman Bradley Smith as an  
3 expression of our sympathy.