



HR0931

LRB097 21059 GRL 68394 r

1

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 National Guard Specialist Christopher Alexander
5 Patterson of North Aurora, who gave his life defending
6 America's freedom on January 6, 2012, in the Shah Wali Kot
7 District in Afghanistan; and

8 WHEREAS, SPC Christopher Patterson was born on April 17,
9 1991, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; he was the son of Mary and
10 Robert Patterson; and

11 WHEREAS, SPC Christopher Patterson graduated from West
12 Aurora High School in June of 2009, where he participated in a
13 variety of musical groups, including the STUDY Hall Choir and
14 the premier A Capella Choir; he also played the trombone in the
15 West Aurora High School bands and enjoyed playing on the West
16 High Chess Team; and

17 WHEREAS, After graduating from West Aurora High School, SPC
18 Christopher Patterson enlisted in the Indiana Army National
19 Guard in the summer of 2009; he later joined the ROTC at
20 Valparaiso University to become a leader for tomorrow's Army;
21 and

1 WHEREAS, SPC Christopher Patterson attended Valparaiso
2 University to study music education and was a member of the
3 University Chorale; upon graduation, he hoped to share his love
4 of music and become a vocal music teacher; and

5 WHEREAS, Not only was SPC Christopher Patterson a soldier,
6 he was a man of faith; he was raised in the Lutheran faith at
7 Immanuel Lutheran Church, in Batavia; he always stood by his
8 convictions and his family heard from at least 3 people that he
9 brought them back to their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; he
10 did this by sharing Bible verses with them that he felt could
11 help them with problems they had in their lives; and

12 WHEREAS, SPC Christopher Patterson was the recipient of
13 numerous awards, including the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart,
14 the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service
15 Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star,
16 the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Armed Forces
17 Reserve Medal with M device, the Army Service Ribbon, the
18 Overseas Service Medal, the NATO Medal, and the Combat Action
19 Badge; and

20 WHEREAS, SPC Christopher Patterson dedicated his life to
21 defending America's freedom and made the ultimate sacrifice in
22 service to his nation; he will be dearly missed by his mother,
23 Mary Patterson; his father, Robert Patterson; his brothers,

1 Carl, Sean, and Thomas; his grandparents, Mike and Sally
2 Patterson and Jim and Claire Schneider; his fellow soldiers;
3 the members of the West Aurora High School, Valparaiso
4 University, and Immanuel Lutheran Church communities; and the
5 citizens of a grateful nation; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
7 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
8 we mourn, along with his family, friends, and the members of a
9 grateful nation, the passing of United States Army National
10 Guard Specialist Christopher Alexander Patterson; and be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the family of SPC Christopher Patterson as a
14 symbol of our sympathy.