



HR1230

LRB097 22924 MST 71728 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Senior Master
4 Sergeant Rebecca Gabel for receiving the "2012 Most Innovative
5 Blood Drive Coordinator Award" from the Illinois Coalition of
6 Community Blood Centers; and

7 WHEREAS, SMSgt Rebecca Gabel embarked on the organization
8 of blood drives at Scott Air Force Base (SAFB) in June 2011;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, SMSgt Gabel has since coordinated 15 successful
11 consecutive blood drives on the last Thursday of every month;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Setting up blood drives on military bases can be
14 very challenging and requires coordination of various
15 departments due to security access that must be coordinated
16 beforehand; and

17 WHEREAS, The coordination of donors and other volunteers
18 for SAFB blood drives can also be difficult because service men
19 and women can be reassigned or deployed with little notice; and

20 WHEREAS, Prior to the drive, SMSgt Gabel would reach out to

1 the entire base to enlist donors and others to help with the
2 logistics; and

3 WHEREAS, To make it more convenient and reach more donors,
4 SMSgt Gabel would make sure the location of the donor bus
5 changes for each drive between 1 of 5 sites throughout the
6 base; and

7 WHEREAS, Under SMSgt Gabel leadership, nearly 500 units of
8 blood have been collected in just 15 months; and

9 WHEREAS, A single unit of blood can save up to 3 lives; and

10 WHEREAS, In April 2012, SMSgt Gabel pushed successfully for
11 a motion which adopted the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood
12 Center's blood drives as one of the major projects of the Air
13 Force Sergeants Association (AFSA); this ensures that in
14 Rebecca's absence the drives will continue through AFSA; and

15 WHEREAS, In June 2012, the Mississippi Valley Regional
16 Blood Center nominated SMSgt Gabel as the "Most Innovative
17 Blood Drive Coordinator" in a state-wide competition hosted by
18 the Illinois Coalition of Community Blood Centers; therefore,
19 be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

1 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
2 we commend SMSgt Gabel for her selfless service to her
3 community and her strong dedication to insuring blood drives
4 will remain a priority at SAFB for years to come; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, that we commend all the service men and women of
7 Scott Air Force Base for their commitment and sacrifice to our
8 nation; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to SMSgt Gabel as a symbol of our respect and esteem.