



HR1324

LRB097 23557 GRL 72599 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate our friend and
4 former Illinois State Representative, Ron Stephens, on the
5 occasion of being honored as the November 2012 Veteran of the
6 Month by the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs; and

7 WHEREAS, Ron Stephens served in the United States Army from
8 1969 to 1971 as a paratrooper with the storied 173rd Airborne
9 Brigade; he is a combat veteran who suffered wounds to his
10 head, arm, shoulder and hand as a result of enemy fire; and

11 WHEREAS, Ron Stephens was awarded the Purple Heart, the
12 Bronze Star, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Vietnam Service
13 Medal with bronze service star, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal
14 with device for his meritorious service; and

15 WHEREAS, Ron Stephens has done many great works within the
16 veteran community, both in his former capacity as State
17 Representative and in his personal life; he has spent more than
18 40 years working with the VFW and American Legion to raise
19 funds for veteran causes and has participated in and organized
20 a multitude of events for fellow veterans and their families;
21 he has served as a coordinator of this year's 160-mile Wounded
22 Warrior Walk, which raised \$16,000 for the Wounded Warriors

1 Project; and

2 WHEREAS, Ron Stephens has worked with the Marine Corps
3 League's Trees for Troops and Toys for Tots programs over the
4 past 10 years and, as an Army veteran, was honored with the
5 Marine Corps League Honorary Membership Award; he has donated
6 funds and time to the local Benjamin Mills Daughters of the
7 American Revolution Chapter, where he teaches elementary
8 school children about the significance of Veterans Day and the
9 importance of respecting the American flag and presents all 3rd
10 graders in the local school system with their own flags; and

11 WHEREAS, As a legislator and veteran, Ron Stephens
12 steadfastly lobbied to name particular roads and bridges in
13 honor of veterans, in addition to his efforts to honor veterans
14 with memorials, including the efforts to name a new bridge
15 being constructed over the Mississippi River in the Metro East
16 area as the "Veterans Bridge" and in the creation of the
17 Springfield Vietnam Veterans Memorial and; he has also been
18 involved in fundraising for a Women Veterans Memorial; and

19 WHEREAS, Ron Stephens was honored as the November 2012
20 Veteran of the Month during a ceremony at the First Christian
21 Church in Greenville; and

22 WHEREAS, Ron Stephens serves as a model of hard work,

1 integrity, and dedication for the people of the State of
2 Illinois and the world at large; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
5 we congratulate our friend and former colleague, Ron Stephens,
6 on the occasion of being honored as the November 2012 Veteran
7 of the Month and wish him continued success and happiness in
8 the future; and be it further

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