



HR0216

LRB098 11643 GRL 44115 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Anne
4 Smedinghoff of River Forest, who was killed in Afghanistan on
5 April 6, 2013; and

6 WHEREAS, Anne Smedinghoff served as a foreign service
7 officer and was in Afghanistan working as a press officer for
8 the U.S. embassy in Kabul; she was involved in helping Afghan
9 journalists cover an event at a boys' school where the local
10 U.S. Provincial Reconstruction Team was working to donate math
11 and science books; she had been in Afghanistan since July 2012
12 working in the public diplomacy department for the local
13 population, helping women and working with schools and local
14 businesses; she had been in the foreign service for 3 years;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Anne Smedinghoff had a passion for the work she
17 was doing and particularly enjoyed the opportunity to interact
18 directly with the Afghan people and was always looking for
19 chances to reach out and help make a difference; she loved to
20 travel and the foreign service allowed her to see the world and
21 help those in need; one of her favorite projects was working
22 with the Afghan women's national soccer team and helping it
23 gain greater acceptance inside Afghanistan; and

1 WHEREAS, Anne Smedinghoff was a Fenwick High School
2 graduate; she attended Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore,
3 where she majored in international studies and became the key
4 organizer of the university's annual Foreign Affairs Symposium
5 in 2008; after college she went into the U.S. Foreign Service
6 and began her career at a post in Caracas, Venezuela; and

7 WHEREAS, Anne Smedinghoff's desire to help others began
8 before she entered foreign service; the passing of her
9 grandfather from cancer when she was 11 got her involved in
10 raising money for cancer research and in 2009 she took part in
11 The 4K for Cancer cross-country bike ride and she rode from
12 Baltimore to San Francisco; and

13 WHEREAS, Anne Smedinghoff loved a physical challenge; she
14 rode her bike with friends from the Dead Sea in Israel to the
15 Red Sea in Jordan and had been running laps to train for a
16 marathon; and

17 WHEREAS, Anne Smedinghoff is survived by her parents, Tom
18 and Mary Beth Smedinghoff; her brother; and her 2 younger
19 sisters; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
21 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that

1 we mourn the passing of Anne Smedinghoff, recognize the
2 sacrifice she made for her country, and extend our sincere
3 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
4 her; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to the family of Anne Smedinghoff as an expression of
7 our deepest sympathy.