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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that we pay honor and respect
3 to the truly great individuals who have served our country, and
4 in doing so, have gone above and beyond the call of duty to
5 make the ultimate sacrifice for our nation; and

6 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
7 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Major
8 Reid B. Nannen of Hopedale, who passed away on March 1, 2014
9 due to injuries sustained in an F/A-18C Hornet crash at the
10 Fallon Grange Training Complex, in Fallon, Nevada; and

11 WHEREAS, Maj. Nannen was born in Peoria on October 15, 1981
12 to Dale P. and Mary Ann Hays; he graduated from Olympia High
13 School in 2000, where he was a 2-year captain of the swim team,
14 section leader for the drum line, member of the Elite Eight
15 baseball teams in 1999 and 2000, and an Illinois State Scholar;
16 following his high school graduation, he attended the
17 University of Illinois, where he was a member of the NROTC
18 battalion and participated in the Marching Illini Drum Line
19 NROTC Drill Team; he married fellow soldier, Sarah M. Simpson,
20 on August 6, 2005 in Peoria; and

21 WHEREAS, Maj. Nannen was commissioned a 2nd LT. in May of
22 2004 and attended The Basic School with Delta Company class

1 4-04; after TBS, he attended Naval Aviation Training with
2 MATSG-21 at NAS Pensacola, NAS Whiting Field, and NAS Meridian;
3 he received his Wings of Gold in February of 2007 and was
4 selected to fly F/A-18 Hornets; he moved to Lemoore,
5 California, for fleet replacement training with VFA-125 in May
6 of 2007; after finishing carrier qualification, he reported for
7 duty with MAG-11 at MCAS Miramarl; in June of 2008, he joined
8 VMFA (AW)-232 and deployed from May to December of 2010 in
9 support of Operation Enduring Freedom 10.2 to Kandahar Airfield
10 in Afghanistan; while with the Red Devils, he served as NATOPS,
11 Ground Safety, Airframes, and Embark Officers; he attended
12 Tactical Air Control Party training in May of 2011 and
13 proceeded to Camp Pendleton, California, for duty as a forward
14 air controller with 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance
15 battalion; he again deployed to Afghanistan from October of
16 2011 to May of 2012 with 1st LAR in support of OEF 12.1 in the
17 lower Helmand River Valley in Afghanistan; he supported every
18 company within 1st LAR and conducted the first company level
19 helicopter operations within the battle space; he returned to
20 Camp Pendleton and subsequently detached from the battalion for
21 refresher training at VMFAT-101; in August of 2012, he
22 transferred to VMFA (AW)-242, where he served as the assistant
23 operations officer; and

24 WHEREAS, Maj. Nannen's awards and decorations include the
25 NATO Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, the Global War

1 on Terrorism Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the
2 National Defense Medal, the Navy Unit Commendation, the Navy
3 Achievement Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, and the Air
4 Medal; and

5 WHEREAS, Maj. Nannen was promoted posthumously from
6 Captain to Major; and

7 WHEREAS, Maj. Nannen enjoyed collecting and assembling
8 Star Wars Legos, loved the Drum Corps International, and had a
9 great enthusiasm for military history and ancient
10 civilizations; he was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in
11 Hopedale; and

12 WHEREAS, Maj. Nannen was preceded in death by his paternal
13 grandparents, "Pete" and Mabel Nannen, and Curtis and Evelyn
14 Simpson; and

15 WHEREAS, Maj. Nannen is survived by his wife, Sarah; his
16 sons, Peter Nannen and Curtis Nannen; his daughters, Betsy
17 Nannen and Isla Nannen; his parents, Dale and Mary Ann Nannen;
18 his sisters, Bethany Nannen Miller and Briana Nannen; his
19 maternal grandparents, Raymond and Elaine Hays; his niece,
20 Madeline Miller; his nephew, A.J. Miller; his mother and
21 father-in-law, Dale and Dianne Simpson; his sister-in-law,
22 Ellyn (Matt) Franke; his grandparents-in-law, Virgil and Jan

1 Handel; and his step-grandparent-in-law, Shirley Simpson;
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
5 we mourn the passing of Major Reid B. Nannen, and extend our
6 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew
7 and loved him; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the family of Maj. Nannen as an expression of our
10 deepest sympathy.