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SENATE RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

10 WHEREAS, Capt. Nannen was preceded in death by his paternal  
11 grandparents, "Pete" and Mabel Nannen, and Curtis and Evelyn  
12 Simpson; and

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

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

6           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7 presented to the family of Capt. Nannen as an expression of our  
8 deepest sympathy.