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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that the Illinois General
3 Assembly pays honor and respect to the truly great individuals
4 who have served our country; and

5 WHEREAS, Bryant J. "B.J." Luxmore was born on November 3,
6 1986; he grew up in New Windsor with his parents, Brenda and
7 Leonard Luxmore, and his brother, Brock; and

8 WHEREAS, B.J. was a hometown boy, and he loved the small
9 community he came from; he was an avid athlete and student who
10 graduated from Sherrard High School in 2005; in high school, he
11 was an excellent athlete in football and baseball; he continued
12 his baseball career at the collegiate level at Monmouth College
13 and Illinois College, where he graduated in 2009; and

14 WHEREAS, B.J. entered the United States Army in April of
15 2011 as an infantryman; he was assigned to the 1st Battalion,
16 64th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the 3rd
17 Infantry Division; after honoring his parents' wishes for him
18 to receive his Bachelor of Arts degree, he pursued his passion
19 to enlist; and

20 WHEREAS, B.J. married Jaimie Lower on October 8, 2011 and
21 relocated to Fort Stewart, Georgia to begin a life together

1 with their son, Lane; he was family-oriented and enjoyed
2 spending any free time he had at home teaching Lane to play
3 baseball; and

4 WHEREAS, B.J. deployed to Afghanistan in March of 2012; he
5 died in the service of his country at the age of 25 in Panjwai,
6 Afghanistan when he suffered injuries while encountering enemy
7 small arms fire; he was posthumously promoted to the rank of
8 corporal and awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and the
9 Combat Infantry Badge; and

10 WHEREAS, B.J. is survived by his wife, Jaimie; his son,
11 Lane; his parents; his brother, Brock, and his wife, Melissa;
12 his maternal grandparents, William and Marcia Johnson; his
13 paternal grandmother, Donna Jo Luxmore; and many aunts, uncles,
14 cousins, nieces, and nephews; and

15 WHEREAS, Anyone who knew B.J. knew that family was the most
16 important thing to him; he was a homebody and a huge sports
17 fan; he and his brother were always outside throwing a football
18 or baseball; he continued his love of sports with Lane and
19 instilled the importance of being a St. Louis Cardinals fan;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, B.J. was a quiet hero who was looked up to by
22 everyone who knew him, as he took his work seriously but had an

1 amazing sense of humor and quick wit that made him so much fun
2 to be around; his dedication, heroism, and courage will never
3 be forgotten by his family, his city, his State, or his
4 country; and

5 WHEREAS, His heart was huge and his smile was infectious;
6 his first entry in his journal he kept in Afghanistan read, "If
7 you don't live for something, you will die for nothing"; CPL
8 Bryant J. Luxmore lived and died for all of us; therefore, be
9 it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
11 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
12 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate the portion of
13 Illinois Route 17 from the Henry/Mercer County Line to the
14 Village of Viola as the CPL Bryant J. Luxmore Memorial Highway;
15 and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation
17 is requested to erect, at suitable locations consistent with
18 State and federal regulations, an appropriate plaque or signs
19 giving notice of the name of the CPL Bryant J. Luxmore Memorial
20 Highway; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
22 presented to the family of Bryant J. Luxmore and the Secretary

1 of the Illinois Department of Transportation.