



HJ0096

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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, in doing so, have made the  
5 ultimate sacrifice for our nation; and

6 WHEREAS, United States Army Specialist Christopher A.  
7 Patterson of North Aurora was killed in action in Afghanistan  
8 on January 6, 2012, along with 3 of his fellow Indiana National  
9 Guardsmen; and

10 WHEREAS, Spc. Patterson was born in Philadelphia,  
11 Pennsylvania on April 17, 1991 to Robert and Mary (nee  
12 Schneider) Patterson; he graduated from West Aurora High School  
13 in 2009 and continued his studies in music education at  
14 Valparaiso University in Indiana, where he was a member of the  
15 professional music fraternity, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and toured  
16 with the school's premiere vocal ensemble, the Chorale; he also  
17 composed and arranged music with a cappella group VuVox and for  
18 the West High STUDy Hall Choir; he was co-captain and first  
19 board for the West High Chess Team and was honored to be under  
20 the tutelage of Robert Payne; and

21 WHEREAS, Spc. Patterson came from a strong military family;  
22 he enlisted with the Indiana National Guard and served as a 12B

1 Combat Engineer with the 713th Engineering Company (Sapper)  
2 based out of the Valparaiso Armory; and

3 WHEREAS, Despite receiving an authorized exception on his  
4 deployment to complete his studies, Spc. Patterson, embodying  
5 the true spirit of patriotism and bravery, volunteered to  
6 accompany his unit on its deployment; and

7 WHEREAS, Spc. Patterson is survived by his parents, Robert  
8 and Mary Patterson; his 3 brothers, Carl Patterson, Sean (Anna)  
9 Patterson, and Thomas Patterson; his paternal grandparents,  
10 Durland and Sally (nee Clark) Patterson; his maternal  
11 grandparents, Jim and Claire (nee Dux) Schneider; his  
12 godparents, Kathy and George Jirasek; many aunts, uncles,  
13 nephews, cousins, and dear friends; and by his "adopted"  
14 siblings, Billy Czech, Aaron Foster, and Candace Robinson;  
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
17 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
18 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate the section of  
19 Illinois Route 31 as it passes through North Aurora as the  
20 "Spc. Christopher A. Patterson Memorial Highway"; and be it  
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation

1 is requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with  
2 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs  
3 giving notice of the name "Spc. Christopher A. Patterson  
4 Memorial Highway"; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
6 presented to the Secretary of the Department of Transportation  
7 and the family of Spc. Patterson.