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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, Army Sgt. Kenneth R. Nichols, Jr. was killed in
7 Kunar Province, Afghanistan on December 1, 2009 when his unit
8 was attacked by small-arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Sgt. Nichols grew up in Chrisman; he graduated
11 from Georgetown-Ridge High School in 2000 and joined the United
12 States Army 5 years later; and

13 WHEREAS, Sgt. Nichols was assigned to the 2nd Battalion,
14 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry
15 Division out of Fort Carson, Colorado and was serving in
16 Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom; and

17 WHEREAS, Sgt. Nichols was a 4-year Army veteran; he served
18 a tour in Iraq from October of 2006 to December of 2007; and

19 WHEREAS, Sgt. Nichols enjoyed playing pranks, riding his
20 Harley-Davidson, and hanging out in a shed he built behind his

1 Colorado Springs, Colorado home; and

2 WHEREAS, Sgt. Nichols is survived by his wife, Lexi; his
3 father, Kenneth R. Nichols, Sr.; his 4 children, Brhyleigh,
4 Kenneth III, Branden, and Pailynn; and 2 sisters, Lisa and
5 Cindy; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
7 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
8 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate the section of
9 Illinois Route 1 that runs from the south end of Westville to
10 Georgetown as the "Sgt. Kenneth R. Nichols, Jr. Memorial
11 Highway"; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation
13 is requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with
14 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs
15 giving notice of the name "Sgt. Kenneth R. Nichols, Jr.
16 Memorial Highway"; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
18 presented to the family of Sgt. Nichols and the Secretary of
19 the Department of Transportation.