

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to honor historic events in the  
4 lives of the citizens of the State of Illinois; and

5 WHEREAS, Bruce Voges of Oakwood, Illinois, was among 29  
6 United States veterans who went on a successful 5,000 mile  
7 voyage from Souda Bay, Crete to bring back the LST-325 to the  
8 United States; and

9 WHEREAS, Bruce Voges and his 28 shipmates, averaging 72  
10 years of age, made the journey across the Atlantic Ocean in  
11 December and arrived in Mobile, Alabama on January 10, 2001,  
12 to a heros' welcome; and

13 WHEREAS, Bruce Voges left for Crete last August to help  
14 make the the former World War II Navy landing ship tank (LST)  
15 seaworthy for its trip home to America; members of the LST  
16 Memorial Ship organization hope to turn the 58-year-old  
17 vessel that once landed men and equipment on the beaches of  
18 Sicily, Salerno, and Normandy into a floating museum; and

19 WHEREAS, Bruce Voges served as the boatswain and was in  
20 charge of equipment and the safety of the ship and crew; he  
21 was third in command behind the captain and the executive  
22 officer; and

23 WHEREAS, After many delays, the LST-325 finally left  
24 Crete on November 16, 2000; during the rough journey through  
25 the Mediterranean, the ship lost an engine and needed several  
26 repairs when it docked in Gibraltar; with local assistance  
27 the crew made the necessary repairs and set sail for the  
28 United States on December 12; and

29 WHEREAS, The Vermilion County War Museum will host a  
30 welcome home open house for Bruce Voges; and

1           WHEREAS, Bruce Voges shares his victorious accomplishment  
2           with his wife, Katie; their sons; Mike and Tim Voges; his  
3           daughter Michele Lawhead; their son-in-law; their  
4           daughters-in-law; their grandchildren; and friends;  
5           therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
7           NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
8           we honor Bruce Voges for his effort, dedication and hard work  
9           that helped lead the LST-325 on its journey back to its home  
10          in America; and be it further

11          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
12          presented to Bruce Voges as an expression of our esteem.