



HJ0045

LRB100 12341 RLC 25046 r

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The General Assembly believes that desecration of the flag of the United States is unpatriotic and shows a total disrespect for the freedoms that are enjoyed by persons living in the United States; and

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WHEREAS, The United States Supreme Court in two 5 to 4 decisions, Texas v. Johnson, 491 U.S. 397 (1989) and United States v. Eichman, 496 U.S. 310 (1990), declared that flag burning was constitutionally-protected free speech; and

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WHEREAS, The General Assembly believes that the only way to permit the General Assembly to prohibit flag desecration is through an Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

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WHEREAS, Several public opinion polls show that a majority of Americans favor a flag desecration Amendment to the Constitution; and

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WHEREAS, The United States House of Representatives on several occasions has supported a flag desecration Amendment; and

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WHEREAS, In 2006, the United States Senate fell one vote short of the two-thirds vote required to send a flag

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1 desecration Amendment to the state legislatures for
2 ratification; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
4 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE
5 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge Congress to propose a
6 Constitutional Amendment to permit Congress and the states to
7 prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United
8 States; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this Resolution be
10 forwarded to the Speaker of the United States House of
11 Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and
12 each member of the Illinois Congressional delegation.