



HR0686

LRB100 15504 ALS 30531 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to recognize Margaret "Margie" McClain and her remarkable life as an advertising representative, a Marine and journalist during World War II, a college student, a mother, and a painter; and

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WHEREAS, Margie McClain was drawn to journalism at an early age; she once interviewed Amelia Earhart after a school assembly, eight months before the famous pilot vanished; on another occasion, popular violinist Dave Rubinoff offered to let her play his \$100,000 Stradivarius violin during an after-assembly interview; and

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WHEREAS, After high school, a love for advertising found her working first as a copy writer and then as the advertising manager at Halbach Schroeder; when a Marine Corps recruiter came in to run some ads to encourage young women to join the Marine Corps Women's Reserve, the ad she wrote was so good that she enlisted; and

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WHEREAS, Stationed in Quantico, Virginia, she became a combat correspondent and interviewed dignitaries and reported the stories of Marines returning home from battle; many of her stories were picked up by the Associated Press, United Press,

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1 and the Washington Post; she interviewed the secretary of the
2 interior and Winston Churchill's nephew; and

3 WHEREAS, After serving in the Marine Corps Women's Reserve
4 for two years, she took advantage of the GI Bill and enrolled
5 at Quincy College; she had dreams of becoming an advertising
6 representative on Fifth Avenue in New York City; however, in
7 college, she met Elmo McClain; they married on December 26,
8 1946 and had eight children; and

9 WHEREAS, Margie McClain taught at St. Peter Grade School
10 for 14 years, and also took time to focus on her family; she
11 has 24 grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren; and

12 WHEREAS, Seven years ago, Margie McClain transformed the
13 back room of her home into a studio and took up oil painting;
14 her most prized work is a highly-detailed portrait of her
15 mother; and

16 WHEREAS, Margie McClain has a deep love for her country;
17 she participated in an Honor Flight with her oldest son, Mike,
18 in Washington D.C., and she was named marshal of Quincy's 2017
19 Veterans Parade; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
21 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we

1 recognize Margie McClain, whose love of family, spirit of
2 adventure, and dedication to lifelong learning is an
3 inspiration to the people of Illinois; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
5 presented to Margie McClain as an expression of our esteem and
6 respect.