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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to honor those who risk their lives to protect and serve the people of this State; and

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WHEREAS, At 5:08 AM on January 7, 2015, Harwood Heights Police Department Officer Ryan Swartzendruber, along with members of the Harwood Heights Police Department, the Norridge Police Department, the Norwood Park Fire Department, the Elmwood Park Fire Department, and the River Grove Fire Department, responded to a house fire at 7911 West Gunnison Street in Norridge; while traveling to the scene of the fire, the responders were notified that there were trapped victims in the home; and

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WHEREAS, Upon arriving at the scene, Officer Ryan Swartzendruber and the other responders found fire coming out of windows on 2 sides of the building and heavy smoke on the first and second floors; the responders immediately began searching for victims, eventually finding several victims hanging out of windows on the 2nd floor; all available crew members were then called to the rear of the house with ground ladders; and

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WHEREAS, Working as a team, the responders were able to

1 successfully ladder the building and assist victims onto the  
2 ladders and down to safety; the victims were handed over to  
3 Emergency Medical Services crews to check for injuries or smoke  
4 inhalation; the victims were subsequently transported to local  
5 hospitals and were released later that afternoon; and

6 WHEREAS, After the victims were removed from the building,  
7 the responders began to attack the fire with multiple hose  
8 lines and elevated master streams; after several hours, the  
9 fire was successfully controlled; and

10 WHEREAS, Officer Ryan Swartzendruber serves as a model of  
11 hard work, integrity, and dedication for the people of the  
12 State of Illinois; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
14 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
15 honor Harwood Heights Police Department Officer Ryan  
16 Swartzendruber for his work and wish him continued success in  
17 the future; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to Officer Ryan Swartzendruber as a symbol of our  
20 esteem and respect.