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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to commend Fire Captain Justin Moffitt  
4 and firefighters Tyler Brackett and Nick Morrissey for their  
5 heroic conduct in saving the life of a Galesburg woman; and

6           WHEREAS, The Galesburg Fire Department was established in  
7 1858; currently led by Chief Randy Hovind, it has 45 personnel  
8 operating out of three stations; with advanced skills and  
9 training, these workers proudly provide professional and  
10 compassionate medical and fire services to their citizens with  
11 quick thinking, intelligence, and dependability; and

12           WHEREAS, On the morning of August 15, 2024, there was a  
13 structure fire at 243 Highland Avenue in Galesburg; enroute,  
14 dispatch radioed that it was believed a person was zip-tied in  
15 the basement of the burning building; upon arrival, smoke was  
16 seen escaping from the first floor; the first in crew,  
17 consisting of Captain Justin Moffitt and firefighters Nick  
18 Morrissey and Tyler Brackett, without delay or protection from  
19 a handline, made entry into the rear of the residence with near  
20 zero visibility; they found the basement stairs, reached the  
21 victim, quickly freed her, exited the structure, and placed  
22 her with awaiting medics; and

1           WHEREAS, Firefighter Tyler Brackett has a wife, Hely, and  
2           a five-year-old daughter, Laikynn, and has been with the  
3           Galesburg Fire Department for two years; Firefighter Nick  
4           Morrissey has been with the Galesburg Fire Department for  
5           three years; Captain Justin Moffitt, the son of retired  
6           Illinois Representative Donald Moffitt, has been married to  
7           his wife, Jennifer, for 15 years, and they have five children,  
8           John, 13, Caroline, 11, Anna, 9, James, 5, and Rosalyn, 6  
9           months; Captain Moffitt has served with the Galesburg Fire  
10          Department for 23 years; and

11          WHEREAS, For their brave service, Galesburg Fire Chief  
12          Randy Hovind nominated these men for the Firefighter  
13          Excellence Award, and the Illinois State Fire Marshall  
14          selected them for the award; and

15          WHEREAS, The 32nd Annual Firefighting Medal of Honor  
16          Awards Ceremony and the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service  
17          will take place on May 13, 2025 at 10 a.m. with the Fallen  
18          Firefighter Memorial Ceremony to be held at the site of the  
19          Firefighter Memorial on the grounds of the State Capitol;  
20          following the memorial ceremony, the Firefighting Medal of  
21          Honor Committee will host the 32nd Annual Firefighting Medal  
22          of Honor Awards Ceremony at the Bank of Springfield Center;  
23          therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
2 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
3 we congratulate Fire Captain Justin Moffitt and firefighters  
4 Tyler Brackett and Nick Morrissey on being selected for the  
5 Firefighter Excellence Award for their brave and calculated  
6 actions that saved a life; and be it further

7           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
8 presented to Captain Justin Moffitt, Firefighters Tyler  
9 Brackett and Nick Morrissey, and Fire Chief Randy Hovind of the  
10 Galesburg Fire Department as an expression of our respect and  
11 esteem.