



HR0578

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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, First responders, such as firefighters, emergency
3 medical technicians (EMTs), paramedics, and police officers,
4 endure countless dangers and struggles day-to-day while
5 serving their communities and providing lifesaving Emergency
6 Medical Services (EMS); and

7 WHEREAS, Families and children of these brave individuals
8 encounter their own day-to-day battles, often stemming from a
9 lack of stability and concerns regarding their family member's
10 safety while on the job; and

11 WHEREAS, According to the First Responders Children's
12 Foundation (FRCF), data has shown that children of first
13 responders experience considerable stress on a daily basis in
14 relation to their parents' jobs; and

15 WHEREAS, In an article titled "Children of First
16 Responders Need Our Help", FRCF President and CEO Jillian
17 Crane attests that children of first responders face daunting
18 mental wellness challenges, including separation anxiety, fear
19 for parents, consistent worrying, and social isolation, among
20 others; and

21 WHEREAS, When a parent is gone inconsistently, especially

1 during important moments of a child's development, said child
2 may experience feelings of abandonment; strong parental bonds
3 are important to the lives and mental health of children and
4 teenagers; when these bonds are weakened due to inconsistency,
5 children may find it exceedingly difficult to establish strong
6 bonds with parents, peers, other family members, or authority
7 figures, potentially stunting their development as they reach
8 adolescence; and

9 WHEREAS, Families and children of first responders,
10 through the commemoration of a day of unity focused on their
11 community and their particular struggles, have the opportunity
12 to combat social isolation while finding strength in one
13 another; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
15 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we declare June 8, 2026 as Unity for Children of First
17 Responders Day in the State of Illinois; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That we recognize the sacrifices made by
19 families and children of first responders; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That we recognize Yanna M. Davenport for her
21 efforts to make Unity for Children of First Responders Day a
22 national event; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to Yanna Davenport as a symbol of our respect and
3 esteem.