



SR0726

LRB104 21521 LAW 36872 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Memorial Wall for the fallen heroes of the
3 Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) was first unveiled
4 on May 10, 2001; and

5 WHEREAS, IDOC chose to place the Memorial Wall on the
6 grounds of the IDOC Training Academy in Springfield, which is
7 on leased land that the State of Illinois does not own; and

8 WHEREAS, IDOC is now in the process of vacating those
9 grounds; and

10 WHEREAS, Consequently, the area surrounding the Memorial
11 Wall is boarded up and strewn with broken glass, making it
12 completely unsuitable for public visitation; and

13 WHEREAS, IDOC's departure from these grounds requires a
14 reassessment of the location of the Memorial Wall; and

15 WHEREAS, Funds are available to contribute towards the
16 movement of the current Memorial Wall or the establishment of
17 a new Corrections Memorial through the contributions of
18 corrections employees to the Illinois Correctional Employees
19 Memorial Association; and

1 WHEREAS, The Illinois State Capitol grounds feature two
2 permanent memorial structures to Illinois' firefighters and
3 police officers who have lost their lives on the job; and

4 WHEREAS, Correctional officers have an average life
5 expectancy of only 59 years, with rates of suicide 39% higher
6 than the national working-age population and rates of
7 depression significantly higher than the national average; and

8 WHEREAS, Across all states and over more than two
9 centuries, Illinois has the third-highest number of
10 correctional officers who have lost their lives in the line of
11 duty; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the Illinois
14 Department of Corrections and the Office of the Architect of
15 the Capitol to establish a Corrections Fallen Heroes Memorial
16 on the State Capitol grounds; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That we recognize the inherent danger and risk
18 that correctional employees confront daily while serving a
19 critical public safety mission, and we affirm that the State's
20 fallen heroes are deserving of a public memorial honoring the
21 sacrifice they made.