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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Corporal William Lee Brown of Benton was killed in North Korea during fierce fighting between United Nation coalition troops and Chinese forces on December 2, 1950; and

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WHEREAS, Cpl Brown enlisted in the U.S. Army on April 5, 1950 at the age of 18 and served with Company B, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division; he was part of a 30,000-member United Nations Command military force that found itself surrounded by approximately 120,000 Chinese troops; from November 27 to December 13, 1950, both forces clashed in rugged terrain and brutally cold weather; Cpl Brown's remains could not be recovered following the battle, and he was listed as missing in action for almost 70 years; and

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WHEREAS, Cpl Brown was awarded the Purple Heart, the Republic of Korea War Service Medal by the Republic of South Korea, and numerous other military medals; and

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WHEREAS, On July 27, 2018, North Korean officials agreed to turn over 55 boxes, purported to contain the remains of American service members killed during the Korean War; and

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WHEREAS, The U.S. Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency notified Cpl Brown's family on October 19, 2019 that his

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1 remains had been identified after nearly seven decades; and

2 WHEREAS, Cpl Brown was born in Sesser to William Faye and  
3 Mary Marguerite Brown on November 6, 1932; and

4 WHEREAS, Left to cherish his memory are his sisters, Dr.  
5 Clarice Burchell and Margie Lou Brown; his niece, Robyn Lynn  
6 Brummett; and his nephew, Paul Michael (Lori) Burchell;  
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we remember the  
10 sacrifice made by Corporal William Lee Brown in service to his  
11 country on December 2, 1950; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 presented to the family of Cpl Brown as a symbol of our respect  
14 and esteem.