



SJ0027

LRB102 14775 MST 20128 r

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that the Illinois General  
3 Assembly pays honor and respect to individuals who have given  
4 their lives in service to their communities; and

5 WHEREAS, Illinois State Police Trooper Nicholas "Nick" J.  
6 Hopkins #6141 of Waterloo took pride in serving his community  
7 and in his roles as friend, brother, husband, and father; and

8 WHEREAS, Trooper Hopkins was a 10-year veteran of the  
9 Illinois State Police and a member of the State Police's SWAT  
10 Team; he began his career on June 1, 2009 as a cadet at the  
11 Illinois State Police Academy; after graduating, he was  
12 assigned to District 12 (Effingham); on August 1, 2013, he  
13 joined ISP Zone 7 Investigations General Criminal Unit, and,  
14 in November of 2013, he was assigned to District 11 patrol in  
15 Collinsville; in February of 2016, he transferred to Zone 6's  
16 Metro East Police Assistance Team (MEPAT); in September of  
17 2017, he was assigned to ISP SWAT; on March 16, 2018, he became  
18 a senior agent with the ISP; and

19 WHEREAS, On August 23, 2019, Trooper Hopkins was shot and  
20 killed in an exchange of gunfire with a suspect as the ISP SWAT  
21 team executed a search warrant in East St. Louis; and

1           WHEREAS, At the time of his death, Trooper Hopkins was  
2 survived by his wife, Whitney Hopkins; his children, Evelyn,  
3 Owen, and Emma; his parents, James and Verna Hopkins; his  
4 siblings, Valerie (Justin) Dortch, Zack (Kathy) Hopkins, Emily  
5 (Mike) Auffenberg, Gabe (Katie) Hopkins, and Abby Hopkins; his  
6 grandmother, Evelyn Hopkins; his sister-in-law, Erin Harris;  
7 his father-in-law and mother-in-law, James and Laural  
8 (Dearnbarger) Harris; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces,  
9 nephews, and cousins; therefore, be it

10           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF  
12 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate Illinois  
13 Route 3 from GG Road to Kaskaskia Road as the "Trooper Nick  
14 Hopkins Memorial Highway"; and be it further

15           RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation  
16 is requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with  
17 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs  
18 giving notice of the name "Trooper Nick Hopkins Memorial  
19 Highway"; and be it further

20           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
21 presented to the family of Trooper Hopkins, the Mayor of  
22 Waterloo, and the Secretary of the Illinois Department of  
23 Transportation.