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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that the Illinois General
3 Assembly pays honor and respect to those who have served our
4 country and, in doing so, have made the ultimate sacrifice for
5 our nation; and

6 WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Sean P. Maher was born in Elk
7 Grove Village to Janet R. and Dan C. Maher on March 19, 1985;
8 as a child, he was a member of Cub Scouts Pack 72 Wildwood, Boy
9 Scout Troop 71 Gurnee, and St. Paul The Apostle Catholic
10 Church in Gurnee, where he served as an altar boy; he enjoyed
11 sports of all types and caddied for Michael Jordan and Scottie
12 Pippen; he was named Athlete of the Year in 8th grade at
13 Woodland Elementary School, where he has a scholarship in his
14 name; he graduated Warren Township High School in 2003, and
15 his football jersey has since been retired in his honor; and

16 WHEREAS, LCpl Maher enlisted in the United States Marines
17 in August of 2003, one week after his 18th birthday, despite
18 having a football scholarship and a full ride to Southern
19 Illinois University; he completed basic training in San Diego,
20 California and was assigned to Weapons Company 1st Battalion
21 3rd Marines 31st MEU 1st Marine Division Kaneohe Bay Hawaii;
22 and

1 WHEREAS, LCpl Maher was killed in action on February 2,
2 2005 in the town of Hit, Iraq as he came under small arms fire
3 while responding to a helicopter crash; he had taken another
4 marine's watch that morning to let his fellow soldier sleep in
5 on his birthday; and

6 WHEREAS, LCpl Maher was awarded numerous citations for his
7 service, including the Marine Rifle Sharpshooter Badge, the
8 National Defense Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps
9 Achievement Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal,
10 the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Armed
11 Forces Expeditionary Medal; posthumously, he received the AIA
12 Hawaii Medal of Honor, the Purple Heart, and the Navy and
13 Marine Corps Achievement Medal; and

14 WHEREAS, LCpl Maher was named an honorary member of Lake
15 Villa VFW Post 4308; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
17 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
18 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate U.S. Route 45 from
19 Belvidere Road (Illinois 120) in Grayslake north to Washington
20 Street as the "U.S. Marine Corps Lance Corporal Sean P. Maher
21 Memorial Highway"; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation

1 is requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with
2 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs
3 giving notice of the name "U.S. Marine Corps Lance Corporal
4 Sean P. Maher Memorial Highway"; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
6 presented to the family of LCpl Maher, Lake Villa VFW Post
7 4308, and the Secretary of the Illinois Department of
8 Transportation.