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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate and thank Lt. Colonel
4 Cecial L. Bates on completing his tour of combat duty in Iraq;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Cecial L. Bates, a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S.
7 Army Reserves serving with the 308th Civil Affairs Brigade,
8 first started serving his country in uniform in August 1967
9 with the U.S. Army; he served in the Illinois National Guard
10 from 1975 to 1988, when he went on to serve in the U.S. Army
11 Reserve; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1996, Lt. Col. Bates served in Operation Joint
13 Endeavor in Bosnia-Herzegovina where he was awarded the NATO
14 Medal and the United Nations Medal; and

15 WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Bates has received numerous awards and
16 medals, including the Illinois Army National Guard Medal of
17 Valor, several Army Commendations Medals, several Army
18 Achievement Medals, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the
19 Armed Forces Medal, and many others; and

20 WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Bates once again answered his country's
21 call to duty in February 2003 when his unit was called to Iraq;
22 for his outstanding service in Iraq, Lt. Col. Bates was awarded
23 the Bronze Star, one of the highest and most prestigious medals
24 given out to members of the U.S. Army with a "V" indicating the
25 medal was awarded for acts of combat heroism and valor; and

26 WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Bates is a respected leader of the Sauk
27 Village community, serving on many boards and committees,
28 including serving on the school board of Community Consolidated
29 Schools District 168 as Vice-President; and

1 WHEREAS, The people of Illinois understand the dangers that
2 Lt. Col. Bates faced on a day to day basis in Iraq and the
3 heroism needed to lead soldiers into combat, and recognize that
4 by serving his country for more that 35 years, many times in
5 combat, Lt. Col. Bates is a true patriotic hero, and without
6 citizens like him the people of the State of Illinois and the
7 United States of America would not enjoy the freedom and
8 liberty that they do; therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
11 congratulate Lt. Col. Bates on returning home to Sauk Village
12 safely and as a victorious hero of Operation Iraqi Freedom; and
13 be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to Lt. Colonel Cecial L. Bates as a token of our
16 deepest and most sincere thanks to a man who has selflessly
17 served his country and community for all of his life.