



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the  
3 State of Illinois learned with great sadness of the combat  
4 death in Iraq of Lance Corporal Neil D. Petsche, United States  
5 Marine Corps, of Lena, on December 21, 2004; and

6 WHEREAS, Neil D. Petsche was born on September 9, 1983, in  
7 Freeport to Dave J. Petsche and Carol (Winters) Petsche; he  
8 graduated from Lena-Winslow High School in 2002; he was a  
9 member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Lena; and

10 WHEREAS, He was active in the Boy Scouts of America,  
11 especially Troop 91 of Lena, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout  
12 on September 8, 2001; he was a former member of the  
13 Lena-Winslow High School Band, where he played percussion  
14 instruments; he was an avid paintball enthusiast and also  
15 enjoyed collecting movies, swimming, working 3-D puzzles, and  
16 listening to Metallica; and

17 WHEREAS, Prior to graduation from high school, he enlisted  
18 in the United States Marine Corps; following his graduation, he  
19 entered basic and advanced infantry training at Camp Pendleton,  
20 California; he was stationed at 29 Palms, California; and

21 WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Petsche was a member of Company A,  
22 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, United  
23 States Marine Corps; he was serving a second voluntary tour in  
24 Iraq; he did not have to be in Iraq, but signed up to go back  
25 because he felt he and the USMC were truly making a difference;  
26 he was the fourth generation military serviceman in his family;  
27 and

28 WHEREAS, Neil is remembered by his family for his smile,  
29 his love of life, and his willingness to lay down his life for  
30 his country; he was a dependable, diligent, quietly determined

1 person who believed his efforts in Iraq would make a difference  
2 for the better; and

3 WHEREAS, The passing of Lance Corporal Neil D. Petsche has  
4 been deeply felt by many, especially his mother, Carol; his  
5 father, David; his brother, Steven; his sisters, Jolene Petsche  
6 and Cheryl Petsche; his paternal grandparents, Marvin A. (Irma  
7 E.) Petsche; his maternal grandparents, Norvin (Irene)  
8 Winters; and his many aunts, uncles, and cousins; therefore, be  
9 it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
12 we mourn the passing of Lance Corporal Neil D. Petsche, USMC,  
13 and we extend our deepest sympathy to his family, friends, and  
14 all who knew and loved him; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That we honor the memory of Lance Corporal  
16 Petsche and his willingness to serve his country, which led to  
17 him making the ultimate sacrifice; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to his family as an expression of our sincere  
20 condolences for their loss.