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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to honor the lives and legacies of  
4 those persons who make a positive impact on the citizens of the  
5 State of Illinois; and

6           WHEREAS, Christopher Canning was regarded in the Taekwondo  
7 community as an outstanding young competitor; he was a member  
8 of the 1999 U.S. Elite Team as well as 11 State martial arts  
9 teams; he was invited to participate with the 2001 U.S. Gold  
10 Team; he was also the winner of 15 State and 3 national titles;  
11 and

12           WHEREAS, Christopher Canning was an inductee in 2 U.S., 2  
13 World, and 10 International Halls of Fame in such categories as  
14 Junior Martial Arts Legend, World's Outstanding Junior Martial  
15 Artist, North America's Outstanding Junior Martial Artist, and  
16 Outstanding Junior Martial Artist of the Past Decade; 18  
17 martial arts legends throughout the world have paid tribute to  
18 his many achievements; 12 special organization awards have also  
19 been given for his work; and

20           WHEREAS, Christopher Canning was the topic of 6 articles in  
21 national and international martial arts magazines; he was also  
22 featured on the cover of the Spring 2009 issue of USA Taekwondo

1 News; and

2 WHEREAS, Christopher Canning was the recipient of 2  
3 President's Volunteer Service Awards from President George W.  
4 Bush and the Points of Light Foundation; he was also honored  
5 with the Legacy of Service Award from the Secretary General of  
6 the Youth Assembly of the United Nations; and

7 WHEREAS, In recognition of his contributions to Taekwondo,  
8 10 competitor awards and 5 scholarships are now given in  
9 Christopher Canning's name in the United States and abroad;  
10 since 2001, 45 national, international, and world champions  
11 have received a Christopher Canning Outstanding Competitor  
12 Award at major martial arts championships or Hall of Fame  
13 events; and

14 WHEREAS, Christopher Canning was an academically solid  
15 student who consistently appeared on his school's honor roll;  
16 he played the classical piano for 4 years and performed in 3  
17 recitals; he also played the drums in his school band, helping  
18 his team to win a State championship; and

19 WHEREAS, Christopher Canning had a great love of animals;  
20 he would help his grandparents with their animal shelter on  
21 weekdays and would help with animal adoption efforts during the  
22 weekends; he also had a special bond with his beloved dog, Max;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Christopher Canning will be remembered fondly by  
3 his fellow martial artists, the members of this body, and  
4 martial arts fans throughout the world not only for his many  
5 accolades and accomplishments, but also for the legacy of hard  
6 work and integrity he created both on and off the mat;  
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
9 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
10 honor the life and legacy of Christopher James Canning and  
11 mourn the loss of this young man many years before his time;  
12 and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
14 presented to the family of Christopher Canning as a symbol of  
15 our esteem and respect.