



HR0499

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In accordance with the established tradition of
3 the Illinois House of Representatives, it is fitting that, for
4 Memorial Day, we honor our brothers and sisters who have given
5 their lives in service to our country as the guardians of our
6 long-held freedoms; and

7 WHEREAS, No better words have been written to honor those
8 brave souls who were sacrificed long ago or pay tribute to the
9 those brave men and women of today who have continued that
10 fight for freedom than the Gettysburg Address; let us now
11 recite those words so humbly said by our 16th President,
12 Abraham Lincoln: "Four score and seven years ago our fathers
13 brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in
14 Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are
15 created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing
16 whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so
17 dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield
18 of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field,
19 as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives
20 that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and
21 proper that we should do this. But, in the larger sense, we can
22 not dedicate - we can not consecrate - we cannot hallow - this
23 ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here,
24 have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or

1 detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we
2 say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for
3 us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished
4 work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly
5 advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great
6 task remaining before us - that from those honored dead we take
7 increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last
8 full measure of devotion - that we here highly resolve that
9 these dead shall not have died in vain - that this nation,
10 under God, shall have a new birth of freedom - and that
11 government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall
12 not perish from the earth."; and

13 WHEREAS, Those words from long ago still speak to those
14 brave men and women of today who we now honor; it is all
15 together fitting and appropriate that we, with heavy hearts,
16 again accept the honor of reading the Roll Call of those
17 American soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines from the State
18 of Illinois who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the
19 preceding year since the previous tribute; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
21 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that a
22 copy of this resolution and a copy of the ceremonial honor roll
23 and program of the May 26, 2015 reading of names be presented
24 to the families of these fallen heroes.