



HR0281

LRB100 12292 MST 24854 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that veterans are held in the
3 highest esteem, especially by the Illinois House of
4 Representatives and the State of Illinois; and

5 WHEREAS, The Illinois House of Representatives supports
6 and admires those artistic attempts to bridge the gap between
7 civilian and veteran experiences; and

8 WHEREAS, Illinois is host to the National Veterans Art
9 Museum in Chicago; the Museum began as the Vietnam Veterans Art
10 Group in 1981 in order to create an artistic collection of
11 works as testament to veterans' experiences and the human cost
12 of war; and

13 WHEREAS, The National Veterans Art Museum owns the piece
14 known as "Above and Beyond", the only memorial other than The
15 Wall in Washington, D.C. to list the names of every military
16 personnel killed in action during the Vietnam War; the piece is
17 comprised of 58,307 dog tags, each inscribed with the name of a
18 casualty of the war; the piece was created by veteran artists
19 Rick Steinbock, Ned Broderick, Joe Fornelli, and Mike Helbing;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, "Above and Beyond" has struck awe into all those

1 who have seen it and it solemnly honors those who have given
2 the last full measure of devotion in service to our country;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has yet to pay the entirety
5 of a grant supporting the piece "Above and Beyond"; therefore,
6 be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
8 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
9 urge Governor Bruce Rauner, the Department of Commerce and
10 Economic Opportunity, the General Assembly, and the Department
11 of Veterans' Affairs to work together to find a way to pay the
12 balance due to the National Veterans Art Museum; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the Executive Director of the National Veterans
16 Art Museum, the Director of the Department of Commerce and
17 Economic Opportunity, and the Director of the Department of
18 Veterans' Affairs.