



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Throughout the history of our State and nation,  
3 Americans have paid tribute to outstanding citizens by naming a  
4 street, building, or a bridge in their honor; this testimonial  
5 stands as a lasting tribute to inspiring individuals from  
6 grateful citizens; there can be no group more deserving of such  
7 homage than the Iron Brigade, five regiments of soldiers who  
8 fought bravely in the Civil War and lost more troops than any  
9 other brigade; and

10 WHEREAS, Regiments from Wisconsin, Michigan, and Indiana  
11 served in this unit, which fought gallantly at Gettysburg and  
12 other battles and helped preserve the Union; it was considered  
13 by many to be the finest brigade in the Union Army; the Iron  
14 Brigade sustained the heaviest losses of any brigade in the  
15 Civil War, losing 61 percent of its roster at the battle of  
16 Gettysburg; and

17 WHEREAS, No Illinois regiments served in the Brigade, but  
18 there is an Illinois connection; the 24th Michigan Regiment of  
19 this Brigade was given the honor to serve as the military  
20 escort at the funeral of President Abraham Lincoln in  
21 Springfield on May 4, 1865; and

22 WHEREAS, The states of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Indiana  
23 have named the portions of US Highway 12 that traverses their  
24 states as the Iron Brigade Memorial Highway; and

25 WHEREAS, It is appropriate for the portion of US Highway 12  
26 that traverses Illinois between Wisconsin and Indiana to be  
27 named the Iron Brigade Memorial Highway; therefore, be it

28 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
29 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
30 the portion of US Highway 12 that traverses Illinois between

1 Wisconsin and Indiana be designated as the Iron Brigade  
2 Memorial Highway as a memorial to and in honor of the members  
3 who served in the Union army during the Civil War.