



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Represenatatives are pleased to recognize and honor Chicago
4 Firefighter Jon Kataoka who has recently been recommended for
5 the International Benjamin Franklin Fire Service Award for
6 Valor; and

7 WHEREAS, On January 10, 2004, Firefighter Jon Kataoka
8 displayed an extreme act of bravery in the line of duty; and

9 WHEREAS, Disregarding his own safety, Firefighter Kataoka
10 traversed a thin layer of ice over the 33 degree water
11 temperature of Lake Michigan, while showing professionalism in
12 accordance with the highest standards of the Chicago Fire
13 Department, to come to the aid of a citizen who had fallen
14 through the thin ice 100 feet from the shore of Lake Michigan;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Firefighter Kataoka showed personal courage and
17 dedication in the face of danger by using a ladder to
18 distribute his weight and lifesaving equipment and remaining
19 calm and recovering after the thin ice gave way under him; he
20 used the ladder to rescue the victim and drag her across the
21 ice to safety; and

22 WHEREAS, Firefighter Kataoka has been recognized by the
23 mayor of the city of Chicago; he was recommended for the award
24 by Chicago Fire Department Captain George D. Birkenstock; the
25 award is co-sponsored by the International Association of Fire
26 Chiefs and Motorola, Inc.; therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
28 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
29 honor Firefighter Jon Kataoka for his outstanding bravery and
30 selflessness in the line of duty for the citizens of this

1 State; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
3 presented to Firefighter Jon Kataoka as a token of our respect
4 and esteem.