WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to express their immense sadness and grief over the tragedy that occurred on the Northern Illinois University Campus and the losses of Catalina Garcia, Daniel Parmenter, Ryanne Mace, Julianna Gehant, and Gayle Dubowski, who lost their lives in the tragic events at Northern Illinois University on February 14, 2008; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to express heartfelt concern and sorrow for those injured during the events of that day; and

WHEREAS, The immeasurable pain and loss that has been suffered by the entire campus community and their families can be felt by the members of this body, by the citizens of the State of Illinois as a whole, and the entire nation; the effects of this tragic event will always be a part of our lives and memory; and

WHEREAS, The NIU administration and university early responders are to be commended for their quick response to such a dire crisis, in part due to their diligent preparation to such a crisis in the wake of the tragedy that took place at Virginia Tech University; and
WHEREAS, Colleges and universities across the nation have shared their experiences, expertise, and support in our time of need, which has provided immeasurable assistance and has helped to strengthen NIU and the State of Illinois as a whole as we heal; and

WHEREAS, Coordination between local hospitals, law enforcement, emergency workers, NIU faculty, staff, and administrators, and the entire community was exemplary; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with the families, friends, students and faculty of NIU, the deaths of Catalina Garcia, Daniel Parmenter, Ryanne Mace, Julianna Gehant, and Gayle Dubowski, whose lives were ended far too soon; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we hope for the speedy recovery of those injured in the events at Northern Illinois University and ask the people of the State of Illinois to keep them in their thoughts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we thank the DeKalb area medical community, law enforcement, emergency responders, the NIU faculty, staff
and administrators for their quick response, hard work, compassion, and dedication to the students and families of Northern Illinois University; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to the families of Catalina Garcia, Daniel Parmenter, Ryanne Mace, Julianna Gehant, and Gayle Dubowski, Northern Illinois University, and the DeKalb community as symbols of our great sympathy and respect.