



HR0630

LRB097 12527 KXB 57011 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Sergeant
4 Benjamin "Ben" Thomas of Marion, who passed away on June 23,
5 2011; and

6 WHEREAS, He was born February 10, 1984, in Sedalia,
7 Missouri, to Danny Lee and Susan-Renae (Hopkins) Thomas; and

8 WHEREAS, He honorably served in the United States Army,
9 serving overseas in Iraq with the 211th Transportation Unit; he
10 continued his service to the nation by serving with the 825th
11 AG Company Replacement in Marion; and

12 WHEREAS, He was a member of the Dorrisville Baptist Church
13 in Harrisburg; he was a 2002 graduate of Carbondale Community
14 High School; he earned his Associate's Degree in criminal
15 justice from John A. Logan College; he had an interest in
16 martial arts, where he attained an eighth degree black belt in
17 Kung Fu; he enjoyed playing video games, especially RIFT, but
18 most of all, he loved spending time with his family and
19 friends; and

20 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his maternal
21 grandparents, Charles and Evelyn Hopkins; his

1 great-grandmother, Janie Lee White; and his paternal
2 great-grandparents, Gus and Nell Thomas; and

3 WHEREAS, Sergeant Benjamin "Ben" Thomas is survived by his
4 daughter, Jessa Thomas; his son, William Thomas; his mother and
5 stepfather, Susan-Renae and Dan Walmsley; his father and
6 stepmother, Danny and Susan Thomas; his grandparents, Dean and
7 Linda Thomas and Sarah Thomas; his sisters and brother-in-law,
8 Ashley and Eric Sparks and Brianna Thomas; his fiancée, Mirinda
9 Hart; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
11 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of
13 Sergeant Benjamin "Ben" Thomas; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of Sergeant Benjamin "Ben" Thomas as a
16 symbol of our sincere sympathy.