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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of United States Army Sergeant Dean Russell Shaffer, who passed away on April 19, 2012, in Helmand Province, Afghanistan; and

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WHEREAS, He was assigned to A Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade; he was born March 21, 1989, in Fort Myers, Florida, to Dean Randolph and Susan Marie (Rasbeck) Shaffer; and

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WHEREAS, He was a 2007 graduate of Pekin Community High School, where he participated in the JROTC program and graduated with the rank of cadet sergeant major; he was a member of the JROTC Honor Guard, Color Guard, Drill Team, Physical Fitness Team, Academic Team, and Orienteering Team; he was the recipient of the first PCHS JROTC Career and Technical Education Award; and

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WHEREAS, During his high school years, he worked at Steak 'n Shake in Pekin for several years; he enjoyed playing video games and paintballing; and

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WHEREAS, Sergeant Shaffer has been posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and the Combat Aviation Badge;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his grandfather, John
3 Rasbeck; and

4 WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant Dean Russell Shaffer
5 is survived by his mother, Susan Shaffer; his father and
6 stepmother, Dean "Randy" and Jolyn Shaffer; his sister,
7 Jennifer Davis; his niece, Emily Davis; his nephew, Mason
8 Davis; and his grandparents, Mary Rasbeck, Denton Shaffer, and
9 Sherry and Mark Taylor; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
12 his family and friends, the passing of United States Army
13 Sergeant Dean Russell Shaffer; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That we honor the memory of United States Army
15 Sergeant Dean Russell Shaffer and his willingness to serve his
16 country, which led to him making the ultimate sacrifice; and be
17 it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of United States Army Sergeant Dean
20 Russell Shaffer as a symbol of our sincere sympathy.