



HR0973

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, More than 500,000 American men and women, wearing  
3 the uniforms of the United States armed forces, have paid the  
4 supreme sacrifice while in the service of their country; and

5           WHEREAS, After the conclusion of the American Civil War,  
6 the 2 sides in the conflict, North and South together, joined  
7 hands to create a national sacred day of remembrance in honor  
8 of those who had fallen; and

9           WHEREAS, Through the organizational work of General John A.  
10 Logan, born in Murphysboro, Memorial Day became an official  
11 United States holiday, observed annually on the 4th Monday in  
12 May; and

13           WHEREAS, Almost every American family and almost every  
14 family in Illinois bears upon the rolls of its heart the name  
15 or names of one or more military service members bearing our  
16 own names who have fallen for America in war and in combat; and

17           WHEREAS, In 2016, American men and women continue to serve  
18 in uniform in active combat zones around the world, especially,  
19 but not limited to, the Global War on Terror in numerous  
20 countries, including Afghanistan; and

1           WHEREAS, The supreme sacrifice continues to be made by  
2 patriotic Americans of all 50 states, including Illinois, who  
3 give their lives for the freedom and future of their fellow  
4 Americans; and

5           WHEREAS, In grateful recognition of these sacrifices, on  
6 Memorial Day the people of Illinois gather in places of  
7 religious worship, town squares, and places of burial  
8 throughout our State to remember and honor the fallen; and

9           WHEREAS, In recognition of these gatherings, most  
10 employers and supervisors throughout Illinois grant their  
11 employees and contractors an annual day of remembrance each  
12 Memorial Day to enable these individuals to join their families  
13 and take part in the annual sacred duty of this day; and

14           WHEREAS, Despite this sacred custom, the current schedule  
15 of the Illinois House of Representatives calls for us to  
16 conduct secular business on Memorial Day, May 30, 2016, when we  
17 ought to be home with our families and our communities,  
18 reaffirming the sacred bonds that tie us together as Americans;  
19 therefore, be it

20           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
21 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
22 urge the Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives to

1 recess the House for the duration of Memorial Day, May 30,  
2 2016, and not to call us back into session until the completion  
3 of this day of American remembrance and the completion of the  
4 sacred duties of this day; and be it further

5       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
6 presented to the Speaker of the Illinois House of  
7 Representatives.