



HR0294

LRB101 12078 MST 59582 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Major General Richard J. Hayes Jr. on his illustrious career and years of service to the State of Illinois and his country; and

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WHEREAS, Major General Hayes served as the 39th Adjutant General of the State of Illinois from June 8, 2015 until February 7, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Major General Hayes was responsible for the operations of the Illinois National Guard and oversaw approximately 13,000 men and women in uniform; and

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WHEREAS, Major General Hayes was responsible for the Illinois National Guard's readiness, in order to protect our State, defend our nation, and fight our nation's wars when called upon; and

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WHEREAS, Major General Hayes oversaw a partnership program with the United States and the Polish Armed Forces through the National Guard's State Partnership program; and

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WHEREAS, Major General Hayes served for 33 years in the U.S. Army and the National Guard; and

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1 WHEREAS, After joining the Reserve Officer Training Corps
2 at the University of Kansas, Major General Hayes began his
3 career in 1987 when he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in
4 the Kansas Army National Guard's Second Battalion, 127th Field
5 Artillery Regiment as a Field Artillery Officer; and

6 WHEREAS, Major General Hayes has been deployed in the U.S.
7 and abroad; and

8 WHEREAS, Major General Hayes was deployed to New Orleans in
9 the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina to help with the rebuilding
10 efforts; and

11 WHEREAS, Major General Hayes was deployed to Kosovo as a
12 Deputy Commander as part of a NATO task force to oversee
13 Kosovo's independence from Serbia; and

14 WHEREAS, Major General Hayes participated in joint
15 exercises and deployments with the Armed Forces of Poland,
16 Ukraine, Greece, Romania, Lithuania, Germany, Singapore, and
17 Japan; and

18 WHEREAS, Major General Hayes holds a bachelor's degree in
19 geography from the University of Kansas, a master's degree in
20 business administration from Touro University International,

1 and a master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army
2 War College; and

3 WHEREAS, After spending years as an executive in the
4 engineering and construction field working for Fortune 500
5 companies, Major General Hayes left the private sector in 2013
6 to serve as Assistant Adjutant General for the Illinois Army
7 National Guard and Director of the Joint Staff; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2015, Major General Hayes was selected by
9 Governor Rauner to serve as the Adjutant General of the
10 Illinois National Guard; and

11 WHEREAS, Under Major General Hayes, the Illinois National
12 Guard led all states and territories in financial
13 accountability, established a long list of units receiving
14 "most ready" classifications, achieved the Army Guard highest
15 medical readiness in the nation, hosted a visit by the
16 President of Poland, and excelled in providing military
17 funerals and honors, doing so 4,327 times in 2018; and

18 WHEREAS, Major General Hayes has received numerous awards
19 and honors for his military service, including the Legion of
20 Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the National Defense
21 Service Medal, the Kosovo Campaign Medal, the North Atlantic
22 Treaty Organization Non-Article 5 Medal, the Commander's

1 Cross, and the Star of the Order of Merit of the Republic of
2 Poland; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
4 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
5 we congratulate Major General Richard J. Hayes Jr. on his
6 retirement from the United States Army and thank him for his
7 many years of service to the State of Illinois and United
8 States of America; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy this resolution be presented
10 to Major General Hayes as a symbol of our respect and esteem.