



HR0417

LRB102 19446 MST 28213 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Devin R. Pepper on being confirmed by the United States Senate as Brigadier General in the United States Space Force, the sixth and newest uniformed service of the U.S. Armed Forces, on March 22, 2021; and

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WHEREAS, General Pepper was officially promoted to the rank of Brigadier General on June 7, 2021, making him the first African American General Officer in the United States Space Force; and

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WHEREAS, General Pepper became the first "Mustang" (prior-enlisted) General Officer in the United States Space Force, having served seven years enlisted in the Air Force; and

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WHEREAS, General Pepper currently serves as the Deputy Director of the Strategy, Plans and Policy Directorate, United States Space Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado; and

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WHEREAS, General Pepper, prior to becoming a Brigadier General in the United States Space Force, was the Commander of the Buckley Garrison, Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado, overseeing four domestic bases and stations and 10

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1 international installations; and

2 WHEREAS, General Pepper also served as the Commander of
3 the 460th Space Wing at Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado,
4 where he commanded Air Force Space Command's largest
5 operations group with 23 operations in nine countries; and

6 WHEREAS, General Pepper has served in various assignments
7 across the United States and internationally during his
8 32-year career in the Air Force; domestically, he served at
9 the Pentagon, Maxwell Air Force Base (LA), Vandenberg Air
10 Force Base (CA), Minot Air Force Base (ND), Barksdale Air
11 Force Base (LA), Offutt Air Force Base (NE), and Peterson Air
12 Force Base (CO); internationally, he served in South Korea,
13 the United Kingdom, and Fallujah, Iraq; and

14 WHEREAS, General Pepper has received numerous awards and
15 decorations, including the Air Force Commander's Medal, the
16 Iraq Campaign Bronze Star, the Global War on Terrorism Service
17 Award, the Air Force Space Command Crewmember Excellence
18 Award, and the United States Air Force Verne Orr Award; and

19 WHEREAS, General Pepper has received a number of degrees
20 and certifications, including a Bachelor of Science from
21 University of Maryland, a Master of Arts from George
22 Washington University, and a Master of Business Administration

1 from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University; he attended the
2 National War College in Washington D.C.; and

3 WHEREAS, General Pepper, along with his twin brother
4 Donovan Pepper, is a 1987 graduate of Oak Park and River Forest
5 High School; and

6 WHEREAS, Throughout his career and accomplishments,
7 General Pepper has enjoyed the loving support of his wife of 15
8 years, Alicia, and his children, Madilyn and Lukas; therefore,
9 be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
11 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we congratulate Devin R. Pepper on being confirmed by the
13 United States Senate as Brigadier General in the United States
14 Space Force, and we wish him many successful years; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to General Pepper as a symbol of our respect and
18 esteem.