



HR0208

LRB098 11579 GRL 43898 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of USMC Corporal Aaron J. Ripperda of Marine, who passed away on March 18, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, Corporal Aaron J. Ripperda graduated from Highland High School in 2005; during high school, he played football and was involved in the school's annual madrigal dinner; and

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WHEREAS, After high school, Corporal Aaron J. Ripperda attended St. Xavier University in Chicago for a year and then enrolled in and graduated from the L'Ecole Culinaire School in St. Louis, Missouri; and

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WHEREAS, Being an avid traveler, Corporal Aaron J. Ripperda felt a calling to explore the world by becoming a Marine in 2008; while at Camp Lejeune, he developed a passion for sailing, bought a two-person sailboat, and often took friends out on a bay near the base; and

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WHEREAS, While enlisted in the Marine Corps, Corporal Aaron J. Ripperda traveled to several countries, including Haiti to help with recovery efforts after the 2010 earthquake, and

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1 Afghanistan; in April of 2011, he was promoted to the rank of  
2 corporal; among his numerous honors were a Navy Unit  
3 Commendation and a Humanitarian Service Medal; and

4 WHEREAS, Corporal Aaron J. Ripperda was one of seven  
5 members of the Second Marine Division whose lives was lost on  
6 March 18, 2013, in an explosion during training at the  
7 Hawthorne Army Depot in western Nevada; he was the most senior  
8 of those lost on that day, both in age and rank; and

9 WHEREAS, Corporal Aaron J. Ripperda is survived by his  
10 father, Kent (Colleen) Ripperda; his mother, Tina (Jeff)  
11 Sutton; his sister, Kendall (significant other, Charlie Swaim)  
12 Ripperda; his paternal grandmother, Rita Ripperda; his  
13 maternal grandfather, Ronald (Jackie) Lesicko; his special  
14 friend, Jessica Iskrzycki; his aunts and uncles, Kurt (Lynn)  
15 Ripperda, Cara (significant other, John Zerkle) Tomasek,  
16 William (Beverly) Lesicko, Patrick (Julie) Lesicko; and his  
17 many cousins; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
19 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
20 we mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of  
21 Corporal Aaron J. Ripperda; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That we honor the memory of Corporal Aaron J.

1 Ripperda and his patriotism and willingness to serve his  
2 country, which led him to making the ultimate sacrifice; and be  
3 it further

4       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
5 presented to the family of Corporal Aaron J. Ripperda as a  
6 symbol of our sincere sympathy.