



1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 69

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that the Illinois General  
3 Assembly pays honor and respect to individuals who gave their  
4 lives in the line of duty; and

5 WHEREAS, Layton T. Davis was born on June 18, 1925 in  
6 Watson Township, Effingham County, the fifth child and only son  
7 of Alonzo and Lola Davis; and

8 WHEREAS, Trooper Davis grew up on his family farm across  
9 from Salt Creek School, where he attended school for 8 years;  
10 he later attended Watson's 3-year high school and then attended  
11 Effingham High School's 4-year program graduating in 1943; and

12 WHEREAS, Trooper Davis joined the United States Army in  
13 July of 1944, seeing combat in the Philippines and then serving  
14 in Japan until his honorable discharge in 1946; and

15 WHEREAS, Trooper Davis married his high school sweetheart,  
16 Helen Becker; he worked their small farm and raised 3 sons,  
17 Louis, Alan, and Troy, who all grew up on the farm in Watson;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Trooper Davis worked at the Illinois Department of  
20 Transportation in road maintenance before attending the

1 Illinois State Police Academy in 1957; and

2 WHEREAS, After graduating from the Illinois State Police  
3 Academy, Trooper Davis honorably served and protected the  
4 people of the State of Illinois for 19 years; and

5 WHEREAS, During a routine traffic stop on Interstate 57  
6 near Effingham on March 18, 1976, Trooper Davis was notified by  
7 radio that one of the car's 2 occupants was wanted on a Cook  
8 County warrant; the two men attacked Trooper Davis, shooting  
9 and killing him in the line of duty; and

10 WHEREAS, Trooper Davis had served with the Illinois State  
11 police for 19 years and was assigned to District 12; he was  
12 survived by his wife and 3 children; he is fondly remembered  
13 and appreciated by family, friends, and the public whom he  
14 dutifully served; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
16 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
17 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate the section of  
18 Interstate 57 from the Tri-level north of Effingham to the  
19 southern Shelby County line as the "Trooper Layton T. Davis  
20 Memorial Highway"; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation

1 is requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with  
2 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs  
3 giving notice of the name of the "Trooper Layton T. Davis  
4 Memorial Highway"; and be it further

5       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
6 presented to the family of Trooper Layton T. Davis, the  
7 Illinois State Police, the Effingham Sunrise Rotary Club, the  
8 Mayor of the City of Effingham, and the Secretary of the  
9 Illinois Department of Transportation.