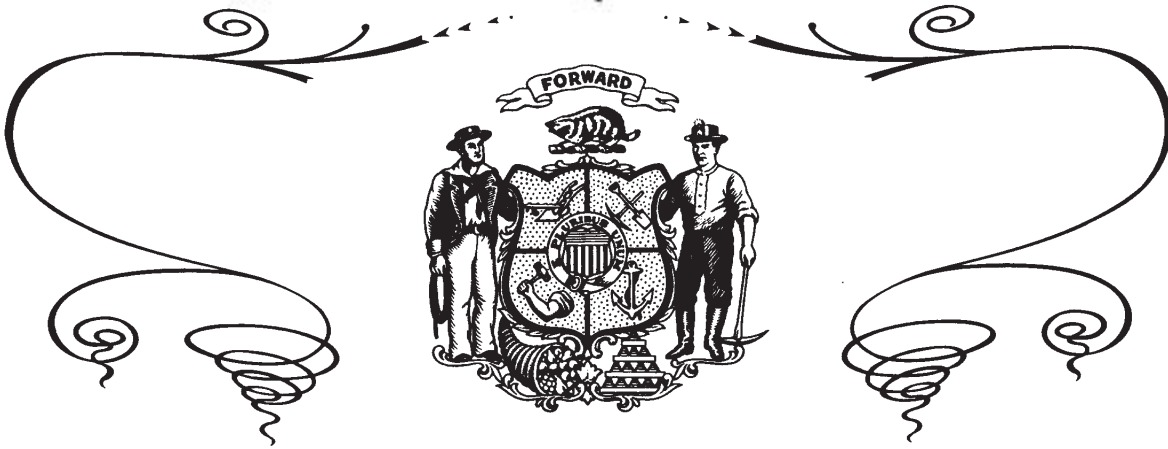


State of Wisconsin



2007 Senate Joint Resolution 42

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: the life and service of Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek of the Wisconsin Army National Guard.

Whereas, Wisconsin Army National Guard Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek was born June 1, 1986, in Alliance, Nebraska, and died from wounds received when a roadside bomb exploded near the vehicle on which Sergeant Jopek was serving as a gunner in convoy security August 2, 2006, near Tikrit, Iraq; and

Whereas Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek, a member of Troop E, 105th Cavalry Regiment, Merrill, Wisconsin, was assigned to Wisconsin Army National Guard Company A, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry Regiment, 32nd Infantry Brigade (Light) (Separate), Waupun, Wisconsin, proudly and faithfully served the people of Wisconsin and the United States with distinction and honor in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

Whereas, Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek loved to play basketball, soccer, golf, and football and was a 2004 graduate of Merrill High School. He also enjoyed music, monster trucks, airplanes, and his 1966 Chevrolet pickup truck. Ryan was an avid Chicago Bears fan and modeled his life after his childhood hero, Walter Payton; and

Whereas, Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek received many awards and decorations, including the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Mobilization Device, the Army Overseas Service Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Combat Action Badge; and

Whereas Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek loved his family and many friends and is survived by his mother, Tracy Jopek of Merrill; his father, Staff Sergeant Brian Jopek, Wisconsin Army National Guard, of Antigo; his sister and his brother, Jessica and Steven Jopek of Merrill; his maternal grandparents, Carrie and Donald Smith of Bayard, Nebraska; his paternal grandparents, Peg and Joseph Jopek of Antigo; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins; and

Whereas, Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while advancing the cause of freedom for the Iraqi people and will always be remembered for his loyalty and duty and will never be forgotten; and

Whereas, Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek was laid to rest on August 14, 2006, at the Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery in Merrill, Wisconsin; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin state legislature commend the remarkable life of Wisconsin Army National Guard Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek, express their sorrow at his death, and extend their condolences to his family and friends; and be it further

Resolved, That the senate chief clerk shall transmit a copy of this joint resolution to Sergeant Jopek's mother, Tracy Jopek of Merrill; father, Staff Sergeant Brian Jopek of Antigo; sister and brother Jessica and Steven Jopek of Merrill; and grandparents Carrie and Donald Smith of Bayard, Nebraska, and Peg and Joseph Jopek of Antigo.

Representative Michael D. Huebsch
Speaker of the Assembly

Senator Fred A. Risser
President of the Senate

Date

Robert J. Marchant
Senate Chief Clerk