

## House Resolution No.

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those residents of the United States who have unfailingly borne the duties and responsibilities associated with patriotic national service in this country's various military branches; and

**Whereas**, Shoshana N. Johnson is a Panamanian by birth who graduated from Andress High School, participated in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, and attended the University of Texas at El Paso before joining the United States Army in September 1998; and

**Whereas**, a second-generation Army veteran, Shoshana Johnson completed the United States Army Basic Training Course at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Lee, Virginia; and

**Whereas**, Shoshana Johnson was assigned duties at Fort Carson, Colorado, and then at Fort Bliss, Texas, before receiving orders to deploy to Iraq as a Food Service Specialist with the 507th Maintenance Company, 552nd Battalion, 11th Brigade; and

**Whereas**, on March 23, 2003, Shoshana Johnson received injuries and was taken prisoner during an ambush of her convoy which gained the world's attention through unparalleled media coverage and interest; and

**Whereas**, on April 13, 2003, Shoshana Johnson and six other Prisoners of War were rescued by United States Marines from the city of Samarra; and

**Whereas**, in addition to her distinction as the first African-American woman ever taken prisoner in United States war history and the first female POW of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Shoshana Johnson has earned the United States Army Service Ribbon, Army Commendation Ribbon, National Defense Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal, and Prisoner of War Medal:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to welcome Shoshana Johnson to the state of Missouri, to convey to her this legislative body's most heartfelt commendation as she delivers the "Heroism Has No Color" lecture at the Loretto-Hilton Center on the campus of Webster University in Saint Louis, Missouri, and to express our best wishes for unparalleled personal and professional success in life; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Shoshana N. Johnson, as an expression of our respect for her and her patriotic military service.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
 Representative Yaphett El-Amin  
 District No. 57

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. , adopted, 2004.

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 Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker