
SUBSTITUTE SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8026

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on State & Local Government (originally sponsored by Senators Shin, Bauer, Heavey, Benton, Franklin, Eide, Patterson, Kline, Johnson, Gardner, Thibaudeau, Rossi, Goings, Hargrove, B. Sheldon, Horn, Haugen, Hochstatter, T. Sheldon, Swecker, Jacobsen, Fairley, Rasmussen, Prentice, Snyder, Stevens, Loveland, Roach, Hale, Honeyford, Brown, Spanel, Fraser, Costa, McAuliffe, Kohl-Welles and Oke)

Read first time 02/04/2000.

1 TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE SECRETARY OF THE
5 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE:

6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
8 represent and petition as follows:

9 WHEREAS, On Sunday, June 25, 1950, seven North Korean Army
10 Divisions supported by tanks and aircraft, conducted an attack and
11 invaded the Southern Republic of Korea; and

12 WHEREAS, Three years and over five million casualties later, a
13 cease fire was secured ending the fighting only miles from where it
14 began; and

15 WHEREAS, The Korean War has only become a footnote in history to
16 most Americans, but was no less of a war to the one and one-half
17 million fighting men and women from this nation who served in that
18 short "Police Action" and struggled to contain Communist aggression;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, The memories of endless hostile hills, gritty pudding-like
21 mud, snow, choking dust, frozen reservoirs, long periods of boredom,

1 and the violent death of friends will forever linger in the minds of
2 those who fought under these inhospitable conditions; and

3 WHEREAS, Twenty-two nations joined forces with the courageous
4 people of South Korea, cherishing freedom and democracy under the
5 United Nations Command, and eventually secured a cease fire for the
6 preservation of peace and a democratic way of life for the citizens of
7 South Korea; and

8 WHEREAS, More than five hundred sons and daughters of Washington
9 state stood in the unbroken line of patriots who dared to die in order
10 that freedom might live and grow. Freedom lives and through it, these
11 courageous men and women live in a way that would humble the
12 undertakings of most people; and

13 WHEREAS, The families and loved ones of these men and women
14 sacrificed just as much, by enduring the pain of their absence, the
15 uncertainty of their whereabouts, and the agony of their deaths; and

16 WHEREAS, This millennium commemorates the 50th anniversary of that
17 holocaust, known as "the Forgotten War" and veterans' service
18 organizations are involved in honoring those gallant veterans who
19 fought the battles for the preservation of freedom, and the members of
20 the armed forces who even to this day guard the gates of freedom in
21 Korea; and

22 WHEREAS, As a nation, we should educate every generation of
23 Americans on the history of the Korean War in preserving our nation's
24 liberty, freedom, and prosperity, and commemorating this event will
25 provide Americans with a clear understanding of, and appreciation for,
26 the sacrifices of these veterans and their families;

27 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully encourage
28 communities nation-wide to hold public recognition programs
29 commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Korean War;

30 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
31 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the
32 United States, the Secretary of the United States Department of
33 Defense, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
34 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
35 Washington.

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