
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8026

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

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 01/27/2000. Referred to Committee on State & Local Government.

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 pray that the years
28 2000 and 2003 be designated as the 50th anniversaries of the beginning
29 and end of the Korean War to honor all veterans of this nation and our
30 allies during the Korean War as well as those serving there today, and
31 encourage all citizens of the Evergreen State to combine their efforts
32 with veterans' service organizations and educational institutions to
33 remember, and perpetuate the meaning of sacrifice for peace and
34 freedom, by honoring those veterans who secured that legacy for future
35 generations throughout the world;

36 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
37 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the
38 United States, the Secretary of the United States Department of
39 Defense, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the

1 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
2 Washington.

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