S-4204.1 _____

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8027

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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, Hale, Stevens, Roach, Honeyford, Spanel, Loveland, Fraser, Brown, Costa, McAuliffe, Kohl-Welles and Oke

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

1   TO THE HONORABLE GARY LOCKE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
2   We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
3 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
4 represent and petition as follows:
5   WHEREAS, On Sunday, June 25, 1950, seven North Korean Army
6 Divisions supported by tanks and aircraft, conducted an attack and
7 invaded the Southern Republic of Korea; and
8   WHEREAS, Three years and over five million casualties later, a
9 cease fire was secured ending the fighting only miles from where it
10 began; and
11   WHEREAS, The Korean War has only become a footnote in history to
12 most Americans, but was no less of a war to the one and one-half
13 million fighting men and women from this nation who served in that
14 short "Police Action" and struggled to contain Communist aggression;
15 and
16   WHEREAS, The memories of endless hostile hills, gritty pudding-like
17 mud, snow, choking dust, frozen reservoirs, long periods of boredom,
18 and the violent death of friends will forever linger in the minds of
19 those who fought under these inhospitable conditions; and
20   WHEREAS, Twenty-two nations joined forces with the courageous
21 people of South Korea, cherishing freedom and democracy under the

1 United Nations Command, and eventually secured a cease fire for the
2 preservation of peace and a democratic way of life for the citizens of
3 South Korea; and
4   WHEREAS, More than five hundred sons and daughters of Washington
5 state stood in the unbroken line of patriots who dared to die in order
6 that freedom might live and grow. Freedom lives and through it, these
7 courageous men and women live in a way that would humble the
8 undertakings of most people; and
9   WHEREAS, The families and loved ones of these men and women
10 sacrificed just as much, by enduring the pain of their absence, the
11 uncertainty of their whereabouts, and the agony of their deaths; and
12   WHEREAS, This millennium commemorates the 50th anniversary of that
13 holocaust, known as "the Forgotten War" and veterans' service
14 organizations are involved in honoring those gallant veterans who
15 fought the battles for the preservation of freedom, and the members of
16 the armed forces who even to this day guard the gates of freedom in
17 Korea; and
18   WHEREAS, As a nation, we should educate every generation of
19 Americans on the history of the Korean War in preserving our nation's
20 liberty, freedom, and prosperity, and commemorating this event will
21 provide Americans with a clear understanding of, and appreciation for,
22 the sacrifices of these veterans and their families;
23   NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the years
24 2000 and 2003 be designated as the 50th anniversaries of the beginning
25 and end of the Korean War to honor all veterans of this nation and our
26 allies during the Korean War as well as those serving there today, and
27 encourage all citizens of the Evergreen State to combine their efforts
28 with veterans' service organizations and educational institutions to
29 remember, and perpetuate the meaning of sacrifice for peace and
30 freedom, by honoring those veterans who secured that legacy for future
31 generations throughout the world;
32   BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
33 transmitted to the Honorable Gary Locke, Governor of the State of
34 Washington.

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