

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2022-4652, by Representative Caldier

1 WHEREAS, The United States owes an immeasurable debt to members
2 of the armed forces who fought for our country on the front lines of
3 World War II, spending months overseas away from their families
4 during long deployments in the most dangerous circumstances
5 imaginable; and

6 WHEREAS, The U.S. Marine Raiders were the first special forces
7 unit formed in the American military in February 1942 in four
8 battalions - Edson, Carlson, Roosevelt, and Liversedge - during World
9 War II; and

10 WHEREAS, The U.S. Marine Raiders played a large role in victories
11 at Makin Island, Tulagi, Guadalcanal, Guam, and Okinawa during World
12 War II; and

13 WHEREAS, According to the Marine Raider Association and
14 Foundation, the WWII Marine Raider Battalions earned seven Medals of
15 Honor, 141 Navy Crosses, and 330 Silver Stars; and

16 WHEREAS, Charles "Chuck" Meacham of Gig Harbor, Washington,
17 served in the United States Marine Corps 3rd Marine Raider Battalion
18 Unit during World War II on the Pacific Islands of Bougainville,
19 Emirau, Guam, and Okinawa; and

20 WHEREAS, Charles "Chuck" Meacham spent 24 consecutive months in
21 the South Pacific engaging in combat as a BAR man on Bougainville,
22 Emirau, Guam, and Okinawa; and

1 WHEREAS, Charles "Chuck" Meacham was involved in several first
2 wave landings within Japanese held territory during World War II,
3 including a rubber boat landing behind enemy lines in Bougainville;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, After leaving the Marine Corps, Charles "Chuck" Meacham
6 spent several years managing Alaska's Department of Fish and Game and
7 as Assistant Secretary of the Interior in Washington, D.C.; and

8 WHEREAS, Charles "Chuck" Meacham now resides in the 26th
9 Legislative District in Gig Harbor, WA, and has continued work to
10 remember and honor the members of the WWII Marine Raider Battalions
11 and those that were affected by the war in the Pacific Islands
12 through charitable work;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House
14 of Representatives honor Charles "Chuck" Meacham of the United States
15 Marine Corps 3rd Marine Raider Battalion for his immeasurable
16 contributions and sacrifices to the United States of America and the
17 original Marine Raiders' significant role in World War II.

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