**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND HONOR THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHO SERVED DURING THE KOREAN WAR, AND TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND APPRECIATION OF A GRATEFUL STATE AND NATION.

Whereas, with deep appreciation, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives honor, on behalf of all South Carolinians, the great sacrifice that the men and women of the United States Armed Forces make for the ideals of liberty and justice so richly enjoyed in this nation; and

Whereas, Korean War veterans, American service members, and their allies served during the Korean War and fought heroically to preserve freedom at the expense of great personal sacrifice; and

Whereas, the first “hot” conflict of the Cold War, the Korean War included both historic battles and offensives that reshaped Northeast Asia and set the groundwork for today’s vibrant South Korea and a generally peaceful and prosperous Northeast Asia, and established important technological and medical advances; and

Whereas, on the heels of President Harry Truman’s order in 1948 that opened the door to integrating the military, the Korean War began with many of the units segregated, and by the end of the war, all were integrated with diverse troops, including African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Asian‑Pacific Islanders; and

Whereas, twenty-two nations aided South Korea, including such allies as France, Canada, Norway, and Ethiopia, who helped South Korea to maintain its independence in the face of the communist onslaught from North Korea; and

Whereas, stories of such engagements as the Battle of Chosin Reservoir provided heroes on whose shoulders all members of the Armed Forces have stood. For seventeen days of brutal fighting in freezing weather, UN forces totaling 30,000, including the United States X Corps, battled some 67,000 Chinese troops surrounding them. Although greatly outnumbered, the UN forces broke out of the encirclement and inflicted crippling losses on the Chinese; and

Whereas, to preserve the history of the events and battles of the Korean War and educate the American public, the Department of Defense established the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee to ensure that the countless acts of valor evidenced in the war, often referred to as the “Forgotten War,” will not be forgotten; and

Whereas, a permanent, state‑of‑the‑art exhibit on the Korean War will be part of the Pentagon’s official tour with a video wall continuously showing videos and images and with special panels devoted to each branch of the Armed Forces: the Air Force, Army, Marines, Navy, Merchant Marines, and Coast Guard; and

Whereas, July 27, 2013, marks the sixtieth anniversary of the negotiated armistice that ended hostilities in the Korean War, which began June 25, 1950, when communist North Korea invaded democratic South Korea, and claimed an estimated five million casualties, the vast majority of them civilians; and

Whereas, a special event is being held at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D. C., to observe the anniversary of the armistice and honor American and South Koran service personnel and those of twenty other nations who fought so valiantly against communism. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate and honor the members of the United States Armed Forces who served during the Korean War, and express the profound appreciation of a grateful State and nation.

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