

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 529

WHEREAS, The observance of World War II Veterans Capitol Day on May 11, 2023, provides an opportunity to honor brave members of the Greatest Generation for their selfless service; and

WHEREAS, In December 1941, the United States was drawn into the most devastating and consequential conflict in human history; then-Texas Governor Coke R. Stevenson predicted that Texans would rise proudly to the challenge of defending their country, and he was proved correct by the long lines of men waiting eagerly to enlist at recruiting centers around the state; and

WHEREAS, Although Texas in that era had but five percent of the nation's population, it provided seven percent of armed forces personnel; Texas A&M University produced more officers than both of the extant military academies together; by the end of the war, 750,000 Texans, including 12,000 women, had contributed to victory over enemy forces; the majority of these service members were in the U.S. Army and the Army Air Force, but nearly a quarter served in other branches; over 22,000 Texans made the ultimate sacrifice, a third of this number in the navy, marines, or coast guard; and

WHEREAS, Individual Texans fought with great valor in all the theaters of the war, and 33 were awarded the Medal of Honor; one such honoree, Lieutenant Audie L. Murphy of Farmersville, was the most highly decorated American of the Second World War; more than 150 generals and 12 admirals were either natives or residents of Texas, among them the supreme Allied commander in Europe, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, a Denison native who was stationed at Fort Sam Houston when the war began; Chester W. Nimitz, appointed commander of the Pacific Fleet following the attack on Pearl Harbor, was born in Fredericksburg and descended from a pioneer Texas German family; and

WHEREAS, According to the National World War II Museum, as of 2022, 8,200 World War II veterans were living in Texas, the fifth-highest number of all states in the U.S.; they represent 0.6 percent of the state's total veteran population of approximately 1,400,000; and

WHEREAS, Inspired by a deep sense of patriotism and love for democracy, the veterans of World War II answered their nation's call to duty, and it is indeed fitting to express our enduring respect and admiration for their courage and immeasurable fortitude; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 88th Legislature, hereby recognize May 11, 2023, as World War II Veterans Capitol Day and encourage all residents of the Lone Star State to learn more about the incomparable contributions of the Greatest Generation.

Parker

Alvarado	Hancock	Miles
Bettencourt	Hinojosa	Nichols
Birdwell	Huffman	Paxton
Blanco	Hughes	Perry
Campbell	Johnson	Schwertner
Creighton	King	Sparks
Eckhardt	Kolkhorst	Springer
Flores	LaMantia	West
Gutierrez	Menéndez	Whitmire
Hall	Middleton	Zaffirini

Patrick, President of the Senate

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 11, 2023.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate