

By: Parker, et al.

S.R. No. 529

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

10 WHEREAS, Although Texas in that era had but five percent of
11 the nation's population, it provided seven percent of armed forces
12 personnel; Texas A&M University produced more officers than both of
13 the extant military academies together; by the end of the war,
14 750,000 Texans, including 12,000 women, had contributed to victory
15 over enemy forces; the majority of these service members were in the
16 U.S. Army and the Army Air Force, but nearly a quarter served in
17 other branches; over 22,000 Texans made the ultimate sacrifice, a
18 third of this number in the navy, marines, or coast guard; and

19 WHEREAS, Individual Texans fought with great valor in all the
20 theaters of the war, and 33 were awarded the Medal of Honor; one
21 such honoree, Lieutenant Audie L. Murphy of Farmersville, was the
22 most highly decorated American of the Second World War; more than
23 150 generals and 12 admirals were either natives or residents of
24 Texas, among them the supreme Allied commander in Europe, General

1 Dwight D. Eisenhower, a Denison native who was stationed at Fort Sam
2 Houston when the war began; Chester W. Nimitz, appointed commander
3 of the Pacific Fleet following the attack on Pearl Harbor, was born
4 in Fredericksburg and descended from a pioneer Texas German family;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, According to the National World War II Museum, as of
7 2022, 8,200 World War II veterans were living in Texas, the
8 fifth-highest number of all states in the U.S.; they represent 0.6
9 percent of the state's total veteran population of approximately
10 1,400,000; and

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

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