

By: Lowe

H.C.R. No. 158

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, September 2, 2025, will mark the 80th anniversary of  
2 the end of World War II; and

3 WHEREAS, Although the Allies celebrated Victory in Europe Day  
4 on May 8, 1945, war continued to rage in the Pacific Theater; Japan,  
5 which had never surrendered to a foreign power, inflicted horrific  
6 carnage during ferocious battles for Iwo Jima and Okinawa; and

7 WHEREAS, In the summer of 1945, U.S. President  
8 Harry S. Truman met with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill  
9 and Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin at the Potsdam Conference; their  
10 discussions extended from the occupation of postwar Germany and the  
11 future of Eastern Europe to the still-grinding war with Japan; and

12 WHEREAS, Following the fall of Okinawa in June 1945,  
13 U.S. forces began to prepare for an invasion of Japan; however,  
14 President Truman feared even heavier casualties than the U.S. had  
15 suffered at Iwo Jima and Okinawa and decided to use the fearsome  
16 weapon developed during a top-secret operation code-named the  
17 Manhattan Project; and

18 WHEREAS, The United States dropped the first atomic bomb on  
19 Hiroshima on August 5, 1945; it followed with a second over Nagasaki  
20 two days later; finally acknowledging that defeat was inevitable,  
21 the Japanese government agreed to unconditional surrender; Japan  
22 issued a statement declaring its full assent to the terms of the  
23 Potsdam Declaration; and

24 WHEREAS, On September 2, U.S. General Douglas MacArthur

1 accepted Japan's formal surrender aboard the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo  
2 Bay, and Victory over Japan Day, popularly known as V-J Day, was  
3 officially celebrated across the United States; crowds rejoiced and  
4 waved flags from New York City's Times Square to San Francisco and  
5 Honolulu, as marching bands, parades, and confetti filled the  
6 streets; and

7 WHEREAS, The conclusion of World War II brought peace and the  
8 triumph of freedom over tyranny, and the anniversary of V-J Day  
9 provides an opportunity to reflect on the patriotism and valor that  
10 defined the Greatest Generation; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas  
12 hereby commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II.