

1 armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States was not a
2 belligerent party; and

3 WHEREAS, more than three thousand four hundred Medals of Honor have been
4 awarded to our nation's bravest soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and coast guardsmen since
5 the creation of the award in 1861; and

6 WHEREAS, the Medal of Honor was awarded to three hundred fifty-three
7 Americans during World War II and only four of those three hundred fifty-three Americans
8 are alive today; and

9 WHEREAS, each of those courageous servicemen, Charles H. Coolidge of
10 Tennessee, Francis S. Currey of New York, Robert D. Maxwell of Oregon, and Hershel
11 Woodrow Williams of West Virginia, risked his life while serving his country with
12 conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity and therefore deserve the gratitude of the American
13 people; and

14 WHEREAS, the President of the United States has the sole authority to designate a
15 state funeral; and

16 WHEREAS, historically, the President of the United States has designated state
17 funerals for former presidents, generals, and other extraordinary Americans; and

18 WHEREAS, our nation is currently divided and yearns for a unifying national event;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, designating a state funeral when the last surviving World War II Medal
21 of Honor recipient dies would be a wonderful way for the American people to unite and
22 honor all sixteen million soldiers, sailors, and airmen who served in our Armed Forces from
23 1941 to 1945.

24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
25 urge and request the President of the United States to designate a state funeral for the last
26 surviving Medal of Honor recipient from World War II when such recipient passes away.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Louisiana House of
28 Representatives be instructed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the President
29 of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States

1 House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, and all
2 members of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 112 Original

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Armes

Requests the President of the United States to designate a state funeral for the last surviving World War II Medal of Honor recipient upon his death.