

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 168

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 108

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 168—Relative to Korean War Armistice Day.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 8, 2004.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 168, Maze. Korean War Armistice Day.

This measure would designate July 27, 2004, as Korean War Veterans Armistice Day. It would urge Californians to remember the Korean War and those who fought against communism. It would also resolve that Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger proclaim July 27, 2004, as Korean War Armistice Day and instruct all state departments, agencies, interested groups, organizations, and individuals to fly the United States flag at half-mast on July 27, 2004, in memory of the veterans who died as a result of their service in Korea.

WHEREAS, On June 25, 1950, Communist armed forces from North Korea violently disrupted the peace in the Land of the Morning Calm as they crossed the 38th parallel and invaded South Korea; and

WHEREAS, The Communist forces advanced rapidly and ruthlessly and, at the outset, appeared close to an easy victory. President Truman, recognizing the threat to South Koreans and their democracy, responded swiftly and decisively. On June 27, 1950, President Truman committed the first United States forces to combat in South Korea; and

WHEREAS, On some of the world's harshest terrain, through the scorching heat of summer and numbing cold of winter, soldiers from California fought to push the Communist North Koreans back toward the 38th parallel; and

WHEREAS, Through months of attack and counterattack, falling back and regaining ground, United States troops and our allies refused to succumb to the attacks of enemy Communist forces. Finally, negotiators signed an armistice agreement at Panmunjom on July 27, 1953. Communist North Korean forces withdrew across the 38th parallel, and the Republic of South Korea regained its status as a free, democratic nation; and

WHEREAS, The veterans who fought in the Korean War will never forget their experiences fighting for freedom against communism and neither will their families. These veterans paid the ultimate price and



paved the way for the foundation of peace and freedom that so many enjoy today; and

WHEREAS, In later years, while the Korean War would sometimes be called “The Forgotten War,” although more than 34,000 American lives were lost in combat, 92,000 were wounded, and more than 8,000 were listed as missing in action or taken prisoner, the members of the California Legislature have not forgotten. We pay homage to the courage of our veterans who fought in Korea and to those who died there or whose fate is still unknown. We recall the grief of their families and the gratitude of the people of South Korea. We remember that, in the Korean War, our soldiers’ brave stand against the evil advances of communism laid the foundations of peace and freedom so many nations enjoy today; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that all Californians should take time and gather to observe the anniversary of the Korean War Armistice Day and honor our veterans who so courageously protect freedom; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That Californians be urged to observe the anniversary of the Korean War Armistice Day and do hereby proclaim July 27, 2004, as Korean War Armistice Day, calling upon all Californians to observe this with appropriate ceremonies and activities that honor and give thanks to our distinguished Korean War veterans; and be it further

Resolved, That Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger proclaim July 27, 2004, as Korean War Armistice Day and instruct all state departments, agencies, interest groups, organizations, and individuals to fly the flag of the United States at half-mast on July 27, 2004, in memory of the Californians who died as a result of their service in Korea; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the California Department of Veterans Affairs and to the author for appropriate distribution.

