

## Assembly Joint Resolution No. 11

### RESOLUTION CHAPTER 11

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 11—Relative to United States Army Staff Sergeant Andrew A. Ramirez, Staff Sergeant Christopher J. Stone, and Specialist Steven M. Gonzales.

[Filed with Secretary of State April 13, 1999.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 11, Romero. Staff Sergeant Andrew A. Ramirez, Staff Sergeant Christopher J. Stone, and Specialist Steven M. Gonzales.

This measure would memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States to press for the safe and speedy return of United States Army Staff Sergeant Andrew A. Ramirez, Staff Sergeant Christopher J. Stone, Specialist Steven M. Gonzales, and all other prisoners of war.

WHEREAS, Members of the United States Armed Forces have consistently answered their nation's call to duty with honor and bravery; and

WHEREAS, Californians serve proudly and with distinction in every branch of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, The residents of California praise the sacrifices of our families, friends, and acquaintances in military service who have entered harm's way; and

WHEREAS, One California native, United States Army Staff Sergeant Andrew A. Ramirez, was taken prisoner while part of a peacekeeping force on the Yugoslav-Macedonia border; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Ramirez was raised in East Los Angeles, a proud community in the 49th Assembly District which is home to many veterans and active members of the armed forces; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Ramirez volunteered for military service in 1992 following his graduation from high school; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Ramirez proudly serves his nation as a cavalry scout for the First Infantry Division of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, The uncertainty of Staff Sergeant Ramirez's welfare has caused his family unimaginable grief and anguish; and

WHEREAS, The residents of East Los Angeles and the State of California stand united in support of Staff Sergeant Ramirez, his captured colleagues, Staff Sergeant Christopher J. Stone, and Specialist Steven M. Gonzales, and their families; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly,* That the Legislature commends United States Army Staff Sergeant Andrew A. Ramirez for heroically and courageously executing his military duties in furtherance of overseas peacekeeping efforts; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Legislature respectfully memorializes the President and the Congress of the United States to press for the safe and speedy return of Staff Sergeant Ramirez, Staff Sergeant Stone, Specialist Gonzales, and all other prisoners of war; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, President pro Tem of the United States Senate, each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the family of Staff Sergeant Ramirez.

