

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 9, 2000

AMENDED IN SENATE JANUARY 24, 2000

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 56

Introduced by Senator Johannessen

January 11, 2000

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 56—Relative to the 50th anniversary of the start of the Korean War.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 56, as amended, Johannessen. 50th anniversary of the start of the Korean War.

This measure would commemorate the 50th anniversary of the start of the Korean War.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, June 25, 2000, marks the 50th anniversary
2 of the invasion of South Korea by North Korea and the
3 start of the three-year Korean War; and

4 WHEREAS, In this war there were 54,246 United States
5 military personnel killed, 103,284 United States military
6 personnel wounded, and 8,177 United States military
7 personnel taken prisoner of war or reported missing in
8 action; and

9 WHEREAS, On June 27, 1950, President Truman
10 ordered United States air and naval forces to help defend
11 South Korea and the United Nations asked member
12 nations to aid South Korea; and

1 WHEREAS, On June 30, 1950, President Truman
2 ordered United States ground troops to South Korea and
3 General Douglas MacArthur was assigned as the
4 commander of the United Nations forces; and

5 WHEREAS, On September 15, 1950, in a surprise move
6 that dramatically changed the course of the Korean War,
7 United States Marines and soldiers of the United States
8 10th Corps made a successful amphibious landing at the
9 port of Inchon, the first amphibious landing against a
10 hostile beachhead since the invasion of Okinawa in April
11 1945, during World War II; and

12 WHEREAS, In December 1950, when the First Marine
13 Division was attacked by a numerically superior Chinese
14 Communist army in the Chosin Reservoir area of North
15 Korea, it fought valiantly to the port of Hungnam where
16 military personnel and equipment were evacuated by the
17 United States Navy. Under the leadership of Major
18 General O. P. Smith, United States Marine Corps, the
19 Marines brought out their dead, their wounded, and most
20 of their combat gear; and

21 *WHEREAS, The Soviet Union soon began to supply*
22 *North Korea with MIG-15 jets, and dogfights became an*
23 *important part of the war when as many as 100 to 150*
24 *United States F-86 jets and Soviet-built MIG-15 jets fought*
25 *heated air battles over North Korea; and*

26 *WHEREAS, The United States Air Force, Navy, and*
27 *Marine Corps lost more than 2,000 planes during the war,*
28 *and allied fliers destroyed more than 1,000 Communist*
29 *planes and killed an estimated 300,000 enemy troops; and*

30 *WHEREAS, The allied naval forces included four*
31 *battleships, eight cruisers, 16 aircraft carriers, and 80*
32 *destroyers, and the United States Navy supported land*
33 *troops by firing at enemy targets and conducted a*
34 *two-year siege of Wonsan, a Communist oil refining and*
35 *industrial city; and*

36 WHEREAS, The Korean War ended on July 27, 1953,
37 when the United Nations and North Korea signed an
38 armistice agreement; and

39 WHEREAS, A permanent peace treaty between South
40 Korea and North Korea has never been signed; and



1 WHEREAS, The Korean War is often called “The
2 Forgotten War” because many of our nation’s veterans
3 have been forgotten; and

4 WHEREAS, Our nation’s Korean War veterans served
5 their country with honor and dignity and we should
6 remember the legacy of their courage; and

7 WHEREAS, Although the Korean War is termed by
8 some as a “Police Action,” it was in fact a vicious and
9 bloody war for those who fought it; now, therefore, be it

10 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the*
11 *Assembly thereof concurring,* That the Legislature
12 hereby commemorates June 25, 2000, as the 50th
13 anniversary of the start of the Korean War; and be it
14 further

15 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit
16 copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate
17 distribution.

