

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6022

A RESOLUTION honoring the Kansans who served in the United States Armed Forces during the Korean War, in defense of the United States, its citizens, and its ideals.

WHEREAS, On June 25, 1950, communist North Korea initiated the Korean War by invading the Republic of Korea with approximately 135,000 troops. Planned and executed with Russian support, the invasion was intended to ensure the spread of communism into the Republic of Korea and beyond; and

WHEREAS, On June 27, 1950, President Harry S. Truman ordered the United States Armed Forces to help the Republic of Korea defend itself against the North Korean invasion; and

WHEREAS, On July 27, 1953, the hostilities ended in a cease-fire, marked by the signing of the armistice at Panmunjom, on the border between North and South Korea; and

WHEREAS, During the Korean War, approximately 1,789,000 members of the United States Armed Forces served in this theater of combat, sustaining 54,246 casualties, including 33,739 battle deaths, more than 103,284 wounded, and approximately 8,055 listed as missing in action or as prisoners of war; and

WHEREAS, 435 Kansans lost their lives in the Korean War. Their names and corresponding branches of service are listed on the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Overland Park; and

WHEREAS, Three Korean War veterans from Kansas were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor: Stanley Taylor Adams, Army, DeSoto; Jack Arden Davenport, USMC, Mission; and Father Emil Joseph Kapaun, Army, Pilsen; and

WHEREAS, The Kansans and other Americans who served in the Armed Forces during the Korean War willingly paid the price that freedom demanded and counteracted the spread of communism to sustain democracy in the Republic of Korea; and

WHEREAS, In the almost 69 years since the outbreak of the Korean War, the Republic of Korea has emerged from a war-torn economy into one of the major economies of the world and one of the United States' largest trading partners and military allies; and

WHEREAS, In September 2017, there were only an estimated 13,431 Korean War veterans living in Kansas, a number that continues to dwindle with each passing year. Therefore, it is only fitting and just that we honor all the brave Kansans who served during the Korean War, some of whom are still with us: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we honor the Kansans who served in the United States Armed Forces during the Korean War, in defense of the United States, its citizens, and its ideals. We remember the service and sacrifice of the Korean War veterans who are still with us in Kansas, as well as the other veterans of the United States Armed Forces and allied countries who served in Korea. Accordingly, we encourage all Kansans to participate in commemorative activities, pay solemn tribute, and never forget the veterans of the Korean War.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.