

1 guardsmen since the creation of the award in 1861; and

2 WHEREAS, The Medal of Honor was awarded to 473 Americans
3 during World War II and only four of those 473 Americans are alive
4 today; and

5 WHEREAS, Charles H. Coolidge of Tennessee, Francis S. Currey
6 of New York, Robert D. Maxwell of Oregon, and Hershel W. Williams of
7 West Virginia all served their country with conspicuous gallantry
8 and intrepidity at the risk of life and therefore deserve the
9 gratitude of the American people; and

10 WHEREAS, The president of the United States has the sole
11 authority to designate a state funeral; and

12 WHEREAS, Historically, the president of the United States has
13 designated state funerals for former presidents, generals, and
14 other extraordinary Americans; and

15 WHEREAS, Designating a state funeral when the last surviving
16 World War II Medal of Honor recipient dies would be a wonderful way
17 for the American people to unite and honor all 16 million soldiers,
18 sailors, and airmen who served in our armed forces from 1941 to
19 1945; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas,
21 hereby respectfully urge the president of the United States to
22 designate a state funeral for the last surviving Medal of Honor
23 recipient from World War II; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
25 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
26 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
27 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the

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1 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
2 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
3 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.