Florida House of Representatives - 1998

HR 9481

By Representatives Maygarden, Thrasher, Melvin, Wise, Ritchie, Fuller, Dennis, Hill, Peaden, Burroughs, Crady, Arnall, King, Jones and Lippman

1 House Resolution A resolution commemorating the 100th 2 3 Anniversary of the Hospital Corps of the Navy. 4 5 WHEREAS, from the United States Navy's beginnings, it was found necessary to make provisions for the sick and б 7 injured, and in 1799 an act of Congress made such provisions, 8 and 9 WHEREAS, in 1842 the Naval Bureau of Medicine and Surgery was established, with the selection of specially 10 11 qualified personnel beginning the next year, and WHEREAS, in 1898 the Hospital Corps came into existence 12 13 as an organized unit of the Medical Department of the Navy, 14 and WHEREAS, in 1900, during the Boxer uprising in China, 15 16 the first member of the Hospital Corps was awarded the 17 Congressional Medal of Honor, with a total of four Medals of 18 Honor being awarded to hospital corpsmen prior to World War I, 19 and 20 WHEREAS, by World War I, the Hospital Corps consisted 21 of 94 temporary commissioned and warrant officers and 16,000 enlisted men, and 22 WHEREAS, fifteen corpsmen were killed in action during 23 World War I, two died of wounds and 146 were wounded or 24 25 gassed, and hospital corpsmen received 460 major awards and 26 citations, including two Medals of Honor, 55 Navy Crosses, 31 Distinguished Service Medals, and two U.S. Army Distinguished 27 28 Service Medals, and 29 WHEREAS, in World War II, the Hospital Corps achieved a 30 record of saving lives which proved to be unequaled, with 97 31

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Florida House of Representatives - 1998 51-233A-98

out of every 100 men of the United States Navy and Marine 1 2 Corps recovering from wounds received, and 3 WHEREAS, in the performance of this seemingly 4 impossible task, 1,724 hospital corpsmen gave their lives, 5 none of whom bore arms, and б WHEREAS, of the fifteen Navy enlisted men awarded the 7 Congressional Medal of Honor during World War II, seven were 8 hospital corpsmen, with members of the Hospital Corps 9 receiving over 820 major awards and citations, and 10 WHEREAS, women were first admitted into the Hospital 11 Corps in World War II, and 12 WHEREAS, the Hospital Corps School for Women Accepted 13 for Volunteer Emergency Service, known as the WAVES, were made 14 an integral part of the regular Navy in 1948, and 15 WHEREAS, during the Korean conflict, the Hospital Corps 16 cared for 2,844 casualties during the three weeks of the Inchon-Seoul operation alone, and U.S. Navy hospital ships in 17 Korean waters handled some 20,000 battle casualties, 30,000 18 19 non-battle casualties, and approximately 80,000 outpatients 20 throughout the course of the conflict, and 21 WHEREAS, of the seven Medals of Honor conferred upon 22 Navy personnel during the Korean conflict, five were bestowed 23 upon hospital corpsmen, and 24 WHEREAS, during the Vietnam conflict, hospital corpsmen performed emergency medical treatment in all types of combat 25 conditions, with 620 corpsmen killed or mortally wounded, and 26 27 3,353 wounded in action, and 28 WHEREAS, awards for gallantry and intrepidity in action 29 included three medals of honor, 29 Navy Crosses, 127 Silver Stars, two Legions of Merit, 290 Bronze Stars, and 4,563 30 31 Purple Hearts, and

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Florida House of Representatives - 1998 51-233A-98

1 WHEREAS, since the end of the Vietnam conflict, 2 hospital corpsmen continue to serve in many "hot spots" around 3 the world, providing medical treatment during military actions and performing as assistants in the prevention and treatment 4 5 of disease and injury, and 6 WHEREAS, wherever the United States Navy and Marine 7 Corps are found, the members of the Hospital Corps provide 8 every medical service that may be required, rendering quality 9 medical care to beneficiaries throughout the world, and 10 WHEREAS, on June 17, 1998, the Hospital Corps of the 11 Navy will celebrate its 100th Anniversary, and 12 WHEREAS, for 100 years the emblem of the Hospital Corps 13 has been a badge of mercy and valor, a token of unselfish 14 service in the highest calling: the saving of life in the service of this country, and 15 16 WHEREAS, it is fitting and appropriate that these courageous and indispensable members of America's Armed Forces 17 18 be honored on the 100th Anniversary of the Hospital Corps of 19 the Navy, NOW, THEREFORE, 20 21 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of 22 Florida: 23 24 That the House of Representatives of the State of 25 Florida hereby honors the Hospital Corps of the United States 26 Navy, which celebrates its 100th Anniversary on June 17, 1998. 27 28 29 30 31

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