

By Senator Latvala

19-56A-00

1 Senate Memorial No. ____

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United

3 States, urging Congress to provide the Florida

4 Department of Veterans' Affairs with

5 information available to the United States

6 Government regarding any Florida resident who

7 is classified as a United States POW/MIA.

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9 WHEREAS, the men and women of the United States Armed

10 Forces are trained and dedicated to protect the security of

11 our nation, and

12 WHEREAS, these men and women have devoted themselves to

13 the task of protecting our lives and liberty as United States

14 citizens, and

15 WHEREAS, all Americans derive inspiration from the

16 sacrifices that members of the Armed Services have endured

17 during captivity as prisoners of war, and

18 WHEREAS, the courage of the families of those members

19 of the Armed Services who still remain missing or unaccounted

20 for is also a great source of inspiration and admiration for

21 all Americans, and

22 WHEREAS, Americans recognize the special debt of

23 gratitude owed to those who have sacrificed their freedom in

24 the service of our country, and

25 WHEREAS, as a reaffirmation of our commitment to the

26 courageous families of these military personnel, the State of

27 Florida pledges to officially inquire as to the identity of

28 any Florida resident whom the United States Government

29 classifies as a POW/MIA, and

30 WHEREAS, the State of Florida, upon official

31 notification that a Florida resident is classified as a United

1 States POW/MIA, vows to officially act to ascertain
2 information regarding the POW/MIA's well-being, and to do all
3 that is within the power of the State of Florida to ensure his
4 or her safe return, NOW, THEREFORE,

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6 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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8 That the Congress of the United States is requested to
9 provide the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs with any
10 information available to the United States Government
11 regarding any Florida resident who is classified as a United
12 States POW/MIA in order that the Florida Department of
13 Veterans' Affairs, upon notification that a Florida resident
14 is so classified, may commence official action to ascertain
15 information regarding the POW/MIA's well-being and endeavor to
16 bring about his or her safe return to the United States.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any information made
18 available to the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs
19 either by the United States Congress or ascertained by the
20 Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, under the provisions
21 of this memorial shall be accessible to members of the
22 immediate family of the POW/MIA. "Immediate family" is defined
23 as a parent, child, spouse, or any other relative by blood,
24 marriage, or adoption.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
26 sent to the President of the United States, the President of
27 the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States
28 House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida
29 delegation to the United States Congress.

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