

By Representative Fiorentino

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House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging Congress to provide the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs with information available to the United States Government regarding any Florida resident who is classified as a United States POW/MIA.

WHEREAS, the men and women of the United States Armed Forces are trained and dedicated to protect the security of our nation, and

WHEREAS, these men and women have devoted themselves to the task of protecting our lives and liberty as United States citizens, and

WHEREAS, all Americans derive inspiration from the sacrifices members of the Armed Services have endured during captivity as prisoners of war, and

WHEREAS, the courage of the families of those members of the Armed Services who still remain missing or unaccounted for is also a great source of inspiration and admiration for all Americans, and

WHEREAS, Americans recognize the special debt of gratitude owed to those who have sacrificed their freedom in the service of our country, and

WHEREAS, as a reaffirmation of our commitment to the courageous families of these military personnel, the State of Florida pledges to officially inquire as to the identity of any Florida resident whom the United States Government classifies as a POW/MIA, and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida, upon official 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 official notification that a Florida
14 resident is so classified, may commence official action to
15 ascertain information regarding the POW/MIA's well-being and
16 endeavor to bring about his or her safe return to the United
17 States.

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

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

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