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CHAMBER ACTION

The Committee on Local Government & Veterans' Affairs recommends the following:

Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States urging Congress to provide adequate federal funding for a full accounting of those missing from our nation's wars, including any Florida resident who is classified as a United States Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (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 endured by members of the armed services during captivity as prisoners of war, and

WHEREAS, the courage of the families of those members of the Armed Services who remain missing or unaccounted for



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29 continues to be a great source of inspiration and admiration for
30 all Americans, and

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

34 WHEREAS, as a reaffirmation of our commitment to the
35 courageous families of these military personnel, the State of
36 Florida pledges support to the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing
37 Personnel Office within the Department of Defense, which is the
38 federal agency charged to deal with the POW/MIA issue, and

39 WHEREAS, the State of Florida hopes to ensure that those
40 who served and sacrificed for our nation are not forgotten and
41 left on faraway shores by urging the Congress to continue their
42 support of the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office
43 of the Department of Defense and its activities, NOW, THEREFORE,

44
45 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

46
47 That the Congress of the United States is requested to
48 provide the funds necessary for the Defense Prisoner of
49 War/Missing Personnel Office of the Department of Defense and
50 other Department of Defense agencies that play critical roles in
51 achieving the fullest possible accounting of POW/MIA's to
52 continue their work unimpeded from budgetary constraints or
53 reductions.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Florida, through
55 the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, will continue
56 working with the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel



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57 | Office to assist in the identification of unlocated family
58 | members of any Florida resident classified as a United States
59 | POW/MIA, thereby enabling the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing
60 | Personnel Office to request that eligible family members provide
61 | a blood sample to keep on file in the event it is needed in the
62 | identification process.

63 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
64 | dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
65 | President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
66 | United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
67 | the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.