



ENROLLED  
HM 0209, Engrossed 1

2003 Legislature

### 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 continues to be 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 support to the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office within the Department of Defense, which is the federal agency charged to deal with the POW/MIA issue, and



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

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

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Florida, through the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, will continue working with the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office to assist in the identification of unlocated family members of any Florida resident classified as a United States POW/MIA, thereby enabling the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office to request that eligible family members provide a blood sample to keep on file in the event it is needed in the identification process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the



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United States House of Representatives, and to each member of  
the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.