

By Senator Aronberg

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the important purpose and goals of the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial.

WHEREAS, the mission of the Disabled Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foundation, Inc., is to raise the funds necessary to design and construct a memorial dedicated to American servicemen and servicewomen who have returned from war with life-altering disabilities, and

WHEREAS, the Disabled Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foundation, Inc., was established in 1998 through the combined efforts of philanthropist Lois Pope, Foundation Chairman; Mr. Arthur Wilson, National Adjutant of the Disabled American Veterans organization and Foundation President; and the late Jesse Brown, former Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Foundation's first Executive Director, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress approved this national memorial to be built in Washington D.C. with the passage of Public Law 106-348, an act sponsored by Senators John McCain and Max Cleland and by Representatives Sam Johnson and Jack Murtha, and

WHEREAS, the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial will command an impressive 2-acre site within full view of the U.S. Capitol and will be constructed of marble and glass, conveying an interplay of strength and vulnerability, loss and renewal, and

WHEREAS, at this sacred spot, all of us - parents, sons and daughters, wives, husbands, friends, and citizens - can bear witness to the courage, sacrifice, tenacity, loyalty, and honor demonstrated by our soldiers permanently injured in battle, and

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30 WHEREAS, the Memorial will hold a special place in the
31 hearts of all Americans, and will serve as a never-ending
32 reminder to all of the cost of human conflict, and will be
33 dedicated to both living and deceased veterans who have been
34 disabled for life in military service, and

35 WHEREAS, the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial
36 will express America's lasting gratitude to the men and women
37 whose lives have been forever changed in service to our country
38 and to their families and friends, transcending individual wars
39 and conflicts, service branches, and generations, and share in
40 their struggles to face lives harshly compromised by war, NOW,
41 THEREFORE,

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43 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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45 That the Disabled Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foundation, Inc.,
46 is commended for its vision in seeking to build this important
47 memorial - the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial - and
48 encourage and support efforts to raise funds for its
49 construction.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
51 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to the Disabled
52 Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foundation, Inc., as a tangible token of
53 the sentiments of the Florida Senate.