

By Senator Montford

3-01064-15

2015882__

Senate Resolution

A resolution honoring Chester Lee Davis, Sr., in
memoriam, for his patriotic service to the United
States during World War II.

WHEREAS, Chester Lee Davis, Sr., was born on November 25,
1923, in Quincy, and passed away in 1981 at the age of 57, and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt
issued an executive order to establish the Fair Employment
Practices Commission, opening the doors for the first African
Americans to enlist in the United States Marine Corps, and

WHEREAS, in 1943, Chester Lee Davis, Sr., was accepted into
the Marine Corps among its first African-American recruits,
completing his basic training at Montford Point in North
Carolina, and

WHEREAS, Chester Lee Davis, Sr., bravely fought in World
War II to defend his country, despite the fact that it did not
yet offer basic civil rights for African Americans, and

WHEREAS, on November 23, 2011, President Barack Obama
signed a resolution to posthumously award the Congressional Gold
Medal, the highest civilian award from the United States
Congress for distinguished contributions, to the members of the
Montford Point Marines, and

WHEREAS, a veterans monument was dedicated on November 10,
2013, in Gadsden County, with a replica of the Congressional
Gold Medal to honor and recognize Chester Lee Davis, Sr., for
his service to the nation, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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31 That Chester Lee Davis, Sr., is honored, in memoriam, for
32 his selfless and patriotic contributions and service to the
33 United States during World War II.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
35 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to his son, Chester
36 Davis, Jr., as a tangible token of the sentiments of the Florida
37 Senate.