

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 264

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding Veterans Day 2003.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 11, 2003

Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. DORGAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding Veterans Day
2003.

Whereas tens of millions of Americans have served in the Armed Forces of the United States during the past century;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of Americans have given their lives while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States during the past century;

Whereas the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States have been vital in maintaining our freedoms and way of life;

Whereas the more than 700,000 brave Americans who have sacrificed their lives while serving in the Armed Forces

of the United States have ensured that the Nation, which is founded on the principles of freedom, justice, and democracy, shall endure;

Whereas Armistice Day was first proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson in 1919 to commemorate the November 11, 1918, armistice between the Allies and the Central Powers that ended the fighting of World War I;

Whereas on June 1, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed into law the Act proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day (Public Law 83–380);

Whereas on October 8, 1954, in anticipation of the first nationwide observance of Veterans Day in 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued a presidential proclamation regarding that Veterans Day which states that “[o]n that day let us solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom, and let us reconsecrate ourselves to the task of promoting an enduring peace so that their efforts shall not have been in vain”;

Whereas on November 10, 2003, President George W. Bush issued a presidential proclamation regarding Veterans Day 2003 which states that “[t]oday, our veterans inspire new generations of Americans as we work to defeat terrorism and advance peace. In respect for and recognition of the contributions our service men and women have made to the cause of peace and freedom around the world, the Congress has provided (5 U.S.C. 6103(a)) that November 11 of each year shall be set aside as a legal public holiday to honor veterans”;

Whereas in 2003 the Senate is in session on November 11 despite that date being a public holiday to honor veterans; and

Whereas it is proper that the Senate observe the day with appropriate tributes and commemorations even as it conducts the Nation's business: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate—

2 (1) that the war dead of the Nation, and vet-
3 erans of the Armed Forces of the United States,
4 alive or dead, are to be honored for their contribu-
5 tions and sacrifices to preserve the Nation and the
6 principles of freedom, justice, and democracy that all
7 Americans hold dear;

8 (2) that Veterans Day 2003 shall be commemo-
9 rated with appropriate tributes to all veterans of the
10 Armed Forces of the United States for their con-
11 tributions and sacrifices, and most especially to
12 those who made the ultimate sacrifice; and

13 (3) that all Americans shall be encouraged to
14 join the Senate in honoring and paying tribute to
15 veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States,
16 both on Veterans Day and throughout the year.

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