

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 284

By Terry

A RESOLUTION to honor those who fought and died in World War II and to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the end of the war in Europe.

WHEREAS, on December 11, 1941, Germany declared war on the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, during the course of World War II, 72 million men, women, and children died, including 48 million civilian and military personnel in Europe; and

WHEREAS, over twenty Tennessee counties served as sites of military training maneuvers during the war, involving 800,000 participants; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee sent 315,501 men and women to fight during the war; and

WHEREAS, 5,731 Tennesseans died fighting against the Axis Powers during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is accredited with being the home of seven Medal of Honor recipients: Raymond Henry Cooley, Charles Henry Coolidge, Paul Bert Huff, Elbert Luther Kinser, Charles L. McGaha, Vernon McGarity, and John Harlan Willis; and

WHEREAS, May 8, 2015, will be the seventieth anniversary of the formal surrender of Nazi Germany to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force under the command of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, with General Carl A. Spaatz serving as United States witness to the final instrument of surrender; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor those who selflessly fought in the European theatre of World

War II and remember those who died valiantly in the service of their country and in the liberation of Europe.

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the end of hostilities in Europe and celebrate seventy years of peace with the people of Germany and peace in Western Europe.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.