

2009 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SCR 4008

## 2009 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No.4008

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 02/13/09

Recorder Job Number: 9442

Committee Clerk Signature

*Kate Quisenberry*

Minutes:

**Senator Dick Dever:** State Senator from District 32 in Bismarck. Somewhere in statute it exists a law that say the Governor will declare that last Saturday of September is Gold Star Mother's Day. I was asked by a representative from the Governor's office to move forward with correspondence that they had received from man in California in reference to a Veteran's Remembered flag. See attachment #1. With that I would be happy to answer questions.

**Senator Horne:** How and when would the flag be used?

**Senator Dever:** It would be at the discretion of Veteran's administration

**Senator Nelson:** The MIA flag flies under US flag. Is that what they want?

**Senator Dever:** They don't say that in the communication I have read. I will ask them to make it sizeable for the committee.

# 2009 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No.4008

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 02/13/09

Recorder Job Number: 9443

Committee Clerk Signature

*Kate Oliver*

Minutes:

Senator Cook made a motion for a do pass on SCR4008 with a second by Senator Horne.

There was no discussion and the motion passed 5-0 with Senator Dever carrying the bill



**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
February 13, 2009 2:02 p.m.

**Module No: SR-29-2689**  
**Carrier: Dever**  
**Insert LC: . Title: .**

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SCR 4008: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Dever, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO PASS** (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).  
SCR 4008 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2009 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SCR 4008

## 2009 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 4008

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: March 13, 2009

Recorder Job Number: 10902 (Starts at 10' remaining)

Committee Clerk Signature *R. Mae Kach*

Minutes:

**Senator Dever, Sponsor: (Attachment #1)** This was a proposal that was brought to me by the Governor's office at the beginning of the session because they had received materials from a gentleman in California who is promoting to establish by Congress a Flag for Veterans Remembered. This is a resolution to ask Congress to adopt a flag. California and several other states have done that. The description of the flag is in the resolution. Each branch of the service has a flag but there is no flag that honors veterans generally. It already is in ND Century Code that the Governor is to declare the last Sunday of September of each year to be Gold Star Mother's Day.

**Representative Schneider:** Do you know anything about the background of the gentleman in California that has been pushing this?

**Senator Dever:** I have a letter from him. "As a WWII veteran, I and thousands of my fellow veterans would like to ask you and your state to help us secure a resolution for a flag honoring our veterans. With the support of our states, we can lead a national effort to honor those who have served our country with a flag commemorating our service. Please forward any state resolutions and Governors' proclamations in support of this effort."

**Representative Amerman:** Is there movement in Congress or a bill that this would help push?

**Senator Dever:** I don't know. I think that they would be receptive.

**Representative Nathe:** Did the gentlemen from California say how many other states have passed this resolution?

**Senator Dever:** He did not include that.

**Representative Kasper:** One line 10, I have a concern with the word "validate." Would you have any objection to changing it to "honor"?

**Senator Dever:** It appears to me to be a wise move.

**Representative Kasper:** Have you talked to veterans groups around the state about this resolution?

**Senator Dever:** I have not.

**Gene Kouba, President of ND Veterans Coordinating Council:** I called everybody yesterday. The only one I did not get a hold of is The American Legion due to winter problems in Fargo. All other branches of service organizations, VFW, VBA, and the AmVets said they would support it.

**Harvey Peterson, Past Commander of American Legion:** I chair the department executive committee. We have not met on this but I assure we do.

**Opposition:** None

**Chairman Grande:** Closed the hearing.



## 2009 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 4008

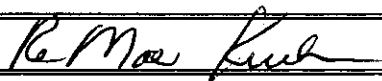
House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: March 13, 2009 (**Committee Work**)

Recorder Job Number: 10905 (5' remaining)

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

**Representative Meier:** Moved the amendment to replace "validate the lives of" with "honor the"

**Representative Dahl:** Seconded

**Representative Schneider:** I wonder if it would be appropriate to remove lines 15-22. My thought being the intent is to support the concept of a veterans flag without binding the state to a particular design in case another one comes forward or Congress decides to move in another direction we're not bound with that one designer from California.

**Chairman Grande:** I don't mind the idea. I'd like to find out from Senator Dever if any other states already passed it with that language.

**Representative Meier:** I would check with Senator Dever.

**Chairman Grande:** I would like to check the number of states that have that design. So we will hold on to this.

**Representative Amerman:** Maybe how the resolution would be worded is to have Congress have each state design one and pick one.

## 2009 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 4008

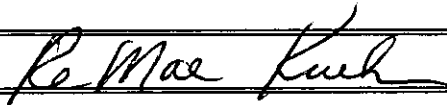
House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: March 19, 2009 (**Committee Work**)

Recorder Job Number: 11280

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

**Chairman Grande:** Last week when we discussed this, Representative Schneider had an amendment to take out Lines 15-22. Is this the flag we want?

**Representative Schneider:** Moved to to amend on

Line 10, replace "validate the lives of" with "honor the"

Line 14, remove "and"

Strike Lines 15-22

**Representative Wolf:** Seconded the amendment.

**Voice vote taken.** Passed.

**Representative Meier:** Moved Do Pass as amended.

**Representative Wolf:** Seconded.

A Roll Call vote was taken. **Yes: 11, No: 0, Absent: 2**, (Representatives Dahl and Froseth).

**Representative Meier will carry the bill.**

**SCR 4008 will be placed on the consent calendar.**

Date: 3/19/9

Roll Call Vote #: 1

2009 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR 4008

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken  Do Pass  Do Not Pass  Amended

Motion Made By MEIER Seconded By WOLF

| Representatives        | Yes | No | Representatives | Yes | No |
|------------------------|-----|----|-----------------|-----|----|
| Chairman Grande        | ✓   |    | Rep. Amerman    | ✓   |    |
| Vice Chairman Boehning | ✓   |    | Rep. Conklin    | ✓   |    |
| Rep. Dahl              | ✓   |    | Rep. Schneider  | ✓   |    |
| Rep. Froseth           | ✓   |    | Rep. Winrich    | ✓   |    |
| Rep. Karls             | ✓   |    | Rep. Wolf       | ✓   |    |
| Rep. Kasper            | ✓   |    |                 |     |    |
| Rep. Meier             | ✓   |    |                 |     |    |
| Rep. Nathe             | ✓   |    |                 |     |    |
|                        |     |    |                 |     |    |
|                        |     |    |                 |     |    |
|                        |     |    |                 |     |    |
|                        |     |    |                 |     |    |
|                        |     |    |                 |     |    |

Total (Yes) 11 No 0

Absent 2

Floor Assignment REP. MEIER

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Place on consent calendar.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SCR 4008: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Grande, Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** and **BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4008 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 10, replace "validate the lives of" with "honor the"

Page 1, line 14, remove "and"

Page 1, remove lines 15 through 22

Renumber accordingly

2009 TESTIMONY

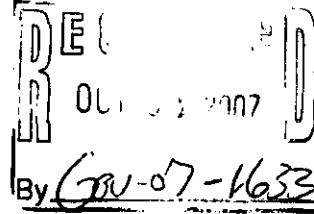
SCR 4008

# Sonoma Veterans Memorial Association

P.O. Box 153  
El Verano, CA 95433

Gov. John Hoeven  
Office of the Governor  
State Capitol  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 101  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0001

September 2007



Dear Governor Hoeven:

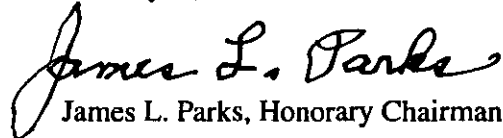
This is a Petition to the U.S. Government.

As a WWII Veteran (1939-1946), I and thousands of my fellow Veterans would like to ask you and your State to help us secure the ratification of a long-neglected Resolution for a flag honoring our Veterans. With the support of our States, we can lead a national effort to honor those who have served our country with a flag commemorating their service.

Please forward any State Resolutions and Governor Proclamations in support of this effort to:

Sonoma Veterans Memorial Park Association  
P.O. Box 153  
El Verano, CA 95433

Thank you,

  
James L. Parks, Honorary Chairman

This Petition to the Government of the United States of America is asking that they adopt the "Veterans Remembered Flag Resolution" AJR48 from the great State of California. This Assembly Joint Resolution, passed on June 05, 2006, recognizes the "Veterans Remembered Flag" as a National Symbol of the service provided by all the members of our Military, both living and deceased. This resolution was passed by the California Legislature in a unanimous vote. It is now awaiting seconding votes from our other great States.

Please give us your positive vote!

Enclosures:

- A. Full text of Resolution
- B. Editorial supporting the Flag
- C. Picture of Flag with meaning of elements
- D. Flag business cards

A PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING NEWSPAPER

# The Press

DEMOCRAT

Santa Rosa, California

**Bruce W. Kyse, Publisher**  
**Catherine Barnett, Executive Editor**  
**Robert L. Swofford, Managing Editor**  
**Peter Golis, Editorial Director**

The New York Times  
 Company 

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## EDITORIALS

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# Flag idea

*North Bay residents hoist  
 an idea that's worth a look*

**U**nlike the recent attempt in Congress at a flag-burning amendment, there's nothing cynical about what Jim Parks and David Wishingrad of Sonoma County are doing.

Americans of all stripe can get behind this flag initiative.

As Staff Writer Guy Kovner reported Wednesday, Parks, of El Verano, and Wishingrad, of Sonoma, are trying to get Congressional approval for a national flag honoring a vanishing breed — veterans of World War II. Actually, they're proposing that their Veterans Remembered Flag be used to honor all soldiers — in the past and in the future. (To see their design, log on to [pressdemocrat.com](http://pressdemocrat.com) and click on local news for July 5.)

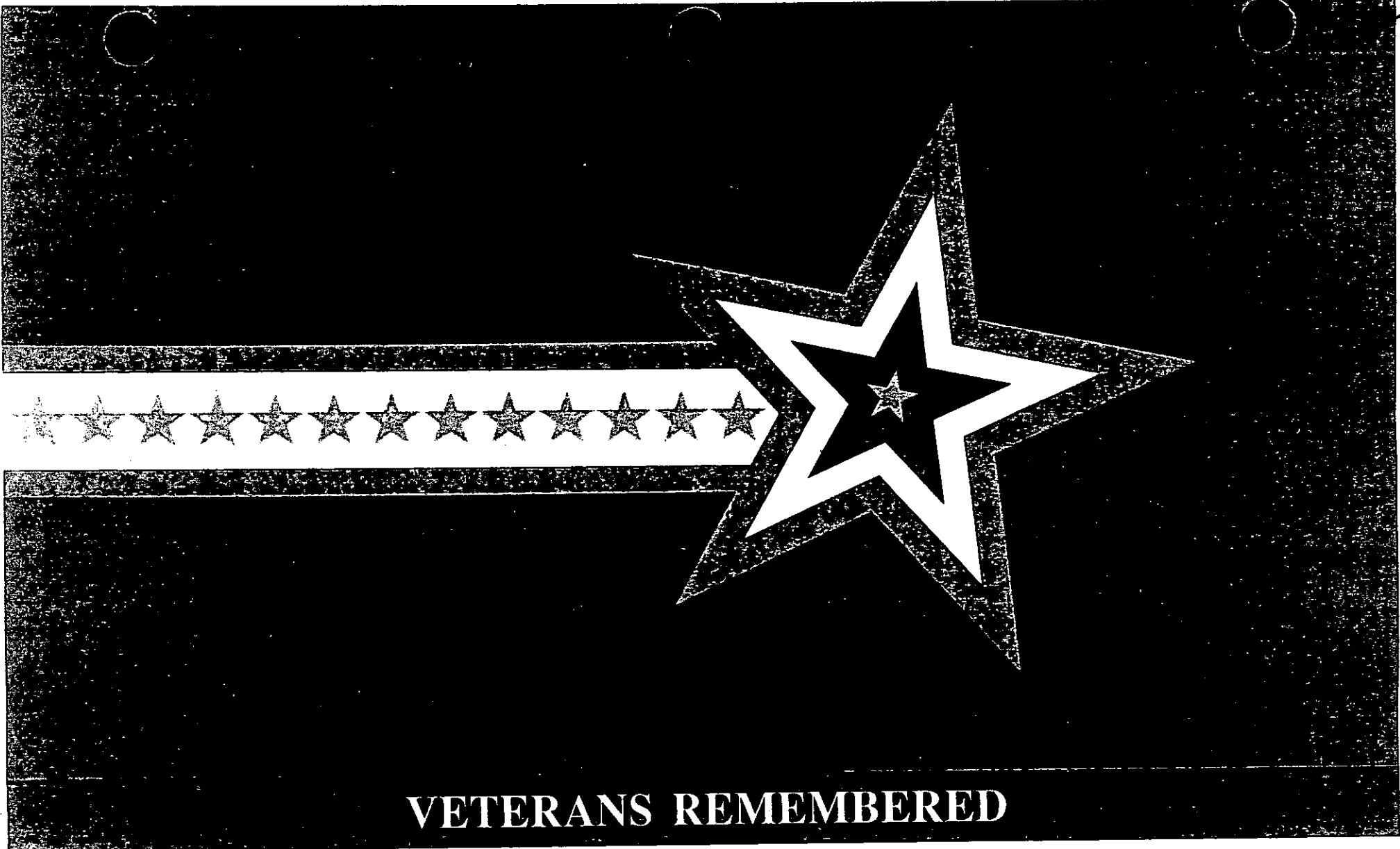
Still, there's a sense of urgency to what they're doing. They note that of the 16 million Americans who were involved in World War II, just 3.5 million are still alive today. It's projected that by 2016, only 616,000 will still be around.

The proposal has already been unanimously endorsed by the California state Legislature, the California American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

It's not the most critical matter but neither should it be a controversial one.

This is one flag proposal that Congress can safely wrap itself around.

ATTACHED 11/8/71



# VETERANS REMEMBERED

## The Meaning of the Flag

- (a) The Flag depicts the founding of our nation by the thirteen stars that emanate from the hoist to the large red star that represents our Nation and the five branches of our country's military that defend her.
- (b) The white star indicates the Veteran's dedication to service.
- (c) The blue star honors all who serve in the military in the past, present, and future.
- (d) The gold star memorializes those who fell defending our Nation.
- (e) The green field represents hallowed ground where all rest eternally.