

Senate Resolution 181

PAG LIN

1 1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. ____
1 2 BY COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
1 3 A Resolution to honor the Meskwaki tribe members who
1 4 served as Code Talkers in North Africa during World
1 5 War II and to request that Congress and the President
1 6 of the United States honor all Code Talkers who served
1 7 in the United States armed forces.
1 8 WHEREAS, the languages of several Native American
1 9 tribes were developed for use as code during both
1 10 World War I and World War II and members of at least
1 11 18 tribes participated in the transmission of vital
1 12 information regarding the location of enemy troops and
1 13 numbers of enemy guns; and
1 14 WHEREAS, this code was never broken and the Native
1 15 American Code Talkers who transmitted the messages are
1 16 credited with saving the lives of countless numbers of
1 17 American soldiers; and
1 18 WHEREAS, these Code Talkers worked under terrible
1 19 conditions, taking extreme risks to provide the
1 20 necessary military information for our military forces
1 21 and sworn to secrecy in the event they were captured;
1 22 and
1 23 WHEREAS, eight members of the Meskwaki tribe from
1 24 Tama County, including Frank Sanache, his brother
1 25 Willard Sanache, Dewey Youngbear, Edward Benson, Judie
1 26 Wayne Wabaunasee, Mike Wayne Wabaunasee, Dewey
1 27 Roberts, and Melvin Twin, served as scouts and Code
1 28 Talkers for eight companies of their division in North
1 29 Africa during World War II; and
1 30 WHEREAS, the last of the Code Talkers from the
2 1 Meskwaki tribe, Frank Sanache, who endured terrible
2 2 hardships both while stationed in North Africa and
2 3 after being captured by the Germans and held prisoner
2 4 in a Nazi internment camp in Europe, died in August
2 5 2004; and
2 6 WHEREAS, Congress passed legislation in 2000
2 7 authorizing the issuance of Congressional Medals of
2 8 Honor to recognize the service of the Navajo Code
2 9 Talkers, which were presented by the President of the
2 10 United States in July of 2001, but members of other
2 11 tribes, such as Frank Sanache and the other Meskwaki
2 12 Code Talkers, did not receive the same recognition;
2 13 and
2 14 WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the valiant
2 15 efforts of all Native American Code Talkers be
2 16 recognized and honored; NOW THEREFORE,
2 17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Iowa Senate
2 18 recognizes the bravery and dedicated service of the
2 19 Meskwaki Code Talkers and expresses gratitude for the
2 20 contribution these soldiers made to saving many
2 21 American lives; and
2 22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa Senate
2 23 requests and encourages Congress and the President of
2 24 the United States to recognize the contributions,
2 25 bravery, and dedicated service of all Code Talkers,
2 26 including the eight soldiers from the Meskwaki tribe,
2 27 in the same manner as the Navajo Code Talkers by
2 28 awarding them the appropriate medals of honor; and
2 29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, upon adoption, copies
2 30 of this Resolution be sent to the Majority and
3 1 Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the
3 2 Speaker, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader of the
3 3 United States House of Representatives, to the members
3 4 of the Iowa congressional delegation, and to the
3 5 President of the United States; and
3 6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, upon adoption, copies
3 7 of this Resolution be sent to the families of Frank
3 8 Sanache and the other Meskwaki tribe members who
3 9 served as Code Talkers in World War II.
3 10 LSB 7165SV 80
3 11 rj/gg/14