

Adopted 4/29/03

FILED APR 22 '03

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 36

BY KRAMER

A Resolution honoring the Iowa members of the United States Naval Armed Guard who served during World War II.

WHEREAS, In October 1941 the United States Navy organized an Armed Guard to provide gun crews for duty aboard the nation's merchant ships, just as it had done in World War I; and

WHEREAS, the 144,970 men who volunteered for duty in the Naval Armed Guard Service in World War II played a key role in ensuring the delivery of essential cargo and supplies to the Allied forces; and

WHEREAS, the Naval Armed Guard manned 6,236 American and Allied ships during the war, many of them slow-moving ships packed with explosives or tankers carrying aviation fuel, and 710 of those ships were sunk as a result of enemy action; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Naval Armed Guard were generally regarded as some of the finest officers, gun crewmen, signalmen, and radiomen in the entire Navy, and they performed an exceptionally dangerous duty with courage, honor, and commitment; and

WHEREAS, by the end of the war, as many as 1,810 of those heroic men were killed or lost at sea, and many more were wounded; and

WHEREAS, there are 225 surviving members of the Naval Armed Guard living here in Iowa today who have earned the admiration and gratitude of all Americans;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Iowa Senate

SR 36  
RULES & ADMINISTRATION

SR 36

1 recognizes the service and sacrifice of the officers  
2 and men of the United States Naval Armed Guard Service  
3 who valiantly defended the essential supply lines of  
4 the Allied forces all over the world and at every  
5 battle of World War II; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the citizens of Iowa  
7 are especially indebted to the Iowa members of the  
8 Naval Armed Guard for the exceptional contribution  
9 they made in the service of their country.

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