LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Sixty-second Legislature Second Regular Session - 2014

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 38

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND COMMEMORATING 2014 AS THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADDITION OF THE PHRASE "UNDER GOD" TO THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND TO HIGHLIGHT ITS LEGACY TO AMERICAN CITIZENS.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, on February 7, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower became convinced that adding the words "under God" to the United States Pledge of Allegiance would be the right thing to do after hearing Reverend George Docherty preach that the phrase "nation under God" was first used in the Gettysburg Address and was appropriate to be added to the United States Pledge of Allegiance because freedom "is defined by a fundamental belief in God"; and

WHEREAS, on February 10, 1954, a bill to "amend the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America" by inserting the words "under God" was introduced in the United States Congress in a Joint Resolution by Senator Homer Ferguson; and

WHEREAS, upon introduction of the bill, Senator Ferguson commented, "I believe this modification of the pledge is important because it highlights one of the real fundamental differences between the free world and the Communist world, namely, belief in God," furthering that with, "Our nation is founded on a fundamental belief in God, and the first and most important reason for the existence of our Government is to protect the God-given rights of our citizens,"; and

WHEREAS, the vote to add "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance was a unanimous vote; and

WHEREAS, the Pledge of Allegiance is an integral part of this nation's identity, introduced to American children in their primary years and recited at major national events, and the inclusion of "under God" to its bold and moving language demonstrates our commitment to the spiritual values on which the United States was founded.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-second Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that we do hereby commemorate and recognize the year of 2014 as the sixtieth anniversary of "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance and that Idaho citizens be encouraged to learn more about this chapter in their history.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives shall furnish copies of this resolution to the Idaho Capitol Correspondents.