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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETIETH SESSION

H. F. No. **2664**

05/12/2017 Authored by Clark, Dettmer, Howe, Loeffler, Kunesh-Podein and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Veterans Affairs Division

1.1 A resolution

1.2 memorializing Congress and the President of the United States to amend federal veterans
1.3 cemetery law to expand eligibility for burial in all federal and state veterans cemeteries
1.4 developed with federal funding to include nurses who served in the Cadet Nurse Corps
1.5 during World War II.

1.6 WHEREAS, in 1943, there was a critical shortage of nurses in the United States and the
1.7 military and civilian medical providers struggled to meet the demand for nurses; and

1.8 WHEREAS, Congress established the United States Cadet Nurse Corps on June 15, 1943,
1.9 to ensure that the United States had a sufficient number of nurses to care for Americans at home
1.10 and overseas while the nation fought in World War II; and

1.11 WHEREAS, the women who served honorably in uniform as members of the Cadet Nurse
1.12 Corps provided a critical war-time service to the nation and are widely considered to have prevented
1.13 the collapse of civilian nursing during World War II; and

1.14 WHEREAS, the surviving members of the Cadet Nurse Corps are nearing the end of their
1.15 natural lives; and

1.16 WHEREAS, the Minnesota State Veterans Cemeteries at Little Falls and Preston, and the
1.17 state veterans cemeteries of most other states, have been developed with federal subsidies and must
1.18 therefore comply with federal rules, such as rules governing eligibility for burial; NOW,
1.19 THEREFORE,

1.20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Governor and the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it
1.21 urges the President and the Congress of the United States, on behalf of a grateful nation, to amend
1.22 federal law and policy to allow nurses who served in the Cadet Nursing Corps during World War
1.23 II to have the final, eternal honor of perpetual interment within all federal and state veterans
1.24 cemeteries throughout the nation, including the Minnesota State Veterans Cemeteries at Little Falls
1.25 and Preston, Minnesota.

2.1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota shall
2.2 transmit copies of this memorial to the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the
2.3 Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the United States Secretary
2.4 of State, the presiding officers of both houses of the legislatures of each of the other states of the
2.5 union, and to Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.