

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1138

Whereas, the Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States; and

Whereas, only 3,497 recipients in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard have been awarded this acknowledgment of extraordinary achievement in military service since its creation in 1861; and

Whereas, 473 Americans received the Medal of Honor for their service during World War II; and

Whereas, only four of these recipients are still living today; and

Whereas, a state funeral is a unifying national event in which Americans can join together to honor and commemorate distinguished individuals; and

Whereas, a single state funeral for the last Medal of Honor recipient from World War II would provide national recognition to the over 16 million men and women who served from 1941 to 1945, and demonstrate appreciation for their sacrifice; and

Whereas, only the President of the United States has the authority to issue a proclamation authorizing an official state funeral for designated individuals:

Now Therefore Be it Resolved that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-ninth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, hereby urge President Trump to issue a proclamation designating a single state funeral for the last Medal of Honor recipient from World War II, as a final salute to the Americans who served during World War II; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the President of the United States and each member of the Missouri Congressional delegation.