

expressing the General Assembly's gratitude to the veterans of the Korean War, honoring those who gave their lives in that war, and supporting the United States defense personnel currently assigned to South Korea.

WHEREAS, The officers and members of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. are concerned for the well-being of the approximately 7,500,000 American military service members who served in the Korean War during actual hostilities, and subsequently to preserve the freedom and independence of the Republic of Korea and the security of the United States; and

WHEREAS, On July 27, 2005, the 52nd Anniversary of the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement, H.R. 3476 was introduced in the United States House of Representatives by Representative Steny Hoyer of Maryland, a former President of the Senate of Maryland; and S. 1512 was introduced in the United States Senate by Senator Paul Sarbanes of Maryland, with the purpose of granting a federal Charter to the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Senator Sarbanes has stated that: "Granting this federal Charter, at no cost to the government, is a small expression of our appreciation for the extraordinary courage and sacrifice of our force in Korea and will afford the Association the same status as other major veteran organizations"; and

WHEREAS, The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. is the only fraternal veterans association in our nation devoted exclusively to Korean War veterans; it is the only United States member of the International Federation of Korean War Veterans Associations (IFKWVA, Seoul, South Korea); and its National President presently serves on the Executive Council of the IFKWVA, thereby bringing worldwide attention to the Association; and

WHEREAS, Organizations of veterans of foreign wars and conflicts occurring since the Korean War have been granted federal Charters; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the General Assembly expresses its profound gratitude to the brave veterans of the Korean War, many of whom are still afflicted by injuries; honors the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the Korean War; and supports the United States defense personnel still assigned to South Korea; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly urges Maryland's Congressional Delegation and all members of Congress to support H.R. 3476 and S. 1512, granting a federal Charter to the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., the same recognition already granted to most veterans groups; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S. Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, III, Benjamin L. Cardin, Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and Christopher Van Hollen, Jr., House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and be it further