

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 23—ASSEMBLYMEN DINI, GIBBONS, ANDERSON, ANGLE, ARBERRY, BACHE, BEERS, BERMAN, BROWER, BUCKLEY, CARPENTER, CEGAVSKE, CHOWNING, CLABORN, COLLINS, DE BRAGA, EVANS, FREEMAN, GIUNCHIGLIANI, GOLDWATER, GUSTAVSON, HETTRICK, HUMKE, KOIVISTO, LEE, LESLIE, MANENDO, MARVEL, MCCLAIN, MORTENSON, NEIGHBORS, NOLAN, OHRENSCHALL, PARKS, PARNELL, PERKINS, PRICE, SEGERBLOM, THOMAS, TIFFANY, VON TOBEL AND WILLIAMS

APRIL 6, 1999

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS AMODEI, CARE, CARLTON, COFFIN, JACOBSEN, JAMES, MATHEWS, MCGINNESS, NEAL, O'CONNELL, O'DONNELL, PORTER, RAGGIO, RAWSON, RHOADS, SCHNEIDER, SHAFFER, TITUS, TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON AND WIENER

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Commends and expresses support for United States servicemen captured in Yugoslavian armed conflict. (BDR R-1714)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Commending and expressing support for the United States servicemen captured in the Yugoslavian armed conflict.

- 1 WHEREAS, The history of the United States of America reveals that our
- 2 peaceful tranquility and pursuit of happiness have often been threatened or
- 3 interrupted by the enemies of freedom; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Millions of Americans have defended our nation and
- 5 defended people from other countries who have been downtrodden and
- 6 persecuted in an effort to preserve the cause of freedom and the human
- 7 rights of all mankind; and

1 WHEREAS, The most unselfish contribution that a person can make
2 toward the good of a democratic society is to agree to serve as a soldier and
3 risk being placed in harm's way; and

4 WHEREAS, On Wednesday, March 31, 1999, three United States
5 servicemen who were attached to the 4th Cavalry of the Army's 1st Infantry
6 Division, based in Germany, were captured while acting as lookouts for a
7 contingent of NATO's peacekeeping force in Macedonia; and

8 WHEREAS, These brave soldiers have been identified as Specialist
9 Steven M. Gonzales, 21, of Huntsville, Texas, Staff Sergeant Andrew A.
10 Ramirez, 24, of Los Angeles, California, and Staff Sergeant Christopher J.
11 Stone, 25, of Smiths Creek, Michigan; and

12 WHEREAS, Specialist Steven Gonzales, described as a likable, bright
13 athlete, graduated from Palestine High School in 1995 in the top 10 percent
14 of his class and won a scholarship to Texas A&M which he attended for 1
15 year before leaving to pursue his dream of joining an elite Army corps; and

16 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Andrew Ramirez, known as an "all-American
17 kid," graduated from high school in 1992 and shortly thereafter joined the
18 Army to follow in the footsteps of his hero, older brother Steven, an Army
19 veteran, who is now a Los Angeles police detective; and

20 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Christopher J. Stone has a wife, Tricia, and a
21 4-year-old son, Ryan, and graduated from Capac High School in 1991
22 where he was described as friendly and well-liked by both students and
23 teachers; and

24 WHEREAS, These three Americans have demonstrated courage and
25 bravery for which all Americans can truly be proud; and

26 WHEREAS, In the captured soldiers' hometowns, friends and family
27 members have strung yellow ribbons all around their communities as
28 symbols of families waiting for soldiers to return from war; now, therefore,
29 be it

30 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA,
31 JOINTLY, That the members of the Nevada Legislature do hereby commend
32 and praise Specialist Steven M. Gonzales, Staff Sergeant Andrew A.
33 Ramirez and Staff Sergeant Christopher J. Stone, for their undaunted spirit
34 and courage upon being taken captive in Yugoslavia; and be it further

35 RESOLVED, That this legislative body encourages the residents of the
36 State of Nevada to demonstrate their feelings of concern and support for
37 these brave young men by stringing yellow ribbons at appropriate locations
38 within their communities; and be it further

39 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a
40 copy of this resolution to the families of Specialist Steven M. Gonzales,
41 Staff Sergeant Andrew A. Ramirez and Staff Sergeant Christopher J. Stone;
42 and be it further

- 1 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage and
- 2 approval.

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