

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 33—Assemblymen Bache, Anderson, Angle, Arberry, Beers, Berman, Brower, Brown, Buckley, Carpenter, Cegavske, Chowning, Claborn, Collins, de Braga, Dini, Freeman, Gibbons, Giunchigliani, Goldwater, Gustavson, Hettrick, Humke, Koivisto, Lee, Leslie, Manendo, Marvel, McClain, Mortenson, Neighbors, Nolan, Ocegüera, Ohrenschall, Parks, Parnell, Perkins, Price, Smith, Tiffany, Von Tobel and Williams

Joint Sponsors: Senators Shaffer, Amodei, Care, Carlton, Coffin, Jacobsen, James, Mathews, McGinness, Neal, O’Connell, O’Donnell, Porter, Raggio, Rawson, Rhoads, Schneider, Titus, Townsend, Washington and Wiener

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Designating May 20 through May 26, 2001, as U.S. Merchant Marine and U.S. Navy Armed Guard Remembrance Week.

WHEREAS, The U.S. Merchant Marine has faithfully served our country in times of war and peace, transporting troops, weaponry, supplies and equipment to every corner of the world; and

WHEREAS, The Merchant Marine has helped win wars and maintain peace by providing necessary materials, food and supplies to assist many other nations in rebuilding their countries and economies; and

WHEREAS, During World War II, the Merchant Marine transported troops and delivered 75 percent of all military equipment and supplies to battle fronts throughout the world in the face of attacks by the enemy and violent seas, without the benefit of sonar equipment to enable them to detect the enemy; and

WHEREAS, Of the relatively small volunteer force of about 250,000 during World War II, at least 8,651 Merchant Mariners were killed at sea, over 11,000 were wounded with 1,100 dying from wounds, and 604 were taken as prisoners of war of whom 61 died in POW camps; and

WHEREAS, For their heroic efforts during World War II, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt recognized the Merchant Mariners as an essential part of the history of the country’s sea power and said the Mariners “have written one of its most brilliant chapters. They have delivered the goods when and where needed in every theater of operations and across every ocean in the biggest, the most difficult and dangerous job ever undertaken. As time goes on, there will be greater public understanding of our merchant’s fleet record during this war”; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Navy Armed Guard was established to protect the Merchant Marine ships from enemy ships, aircraft and submarines by providing gunnery protection and communication services; and

WHEREAS, Many of the members of the Navy Armed Guard had never seen the ocean before being assigned to a Merchant Marine ship, yet they served side-by-side with the Mariners under difficult and extremely dangerous circumstances, often without a doctor on board the ship; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Merchant Marine and the U.S. Navy Armed Guard worked as a team to provide a vital link between our fighting forces overseas and the home front, each suffering one of the highest ratios of

death among the armed services in World War II, with many being lost at sea, their fates unknown; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the Legislature does hereby designate May 20 through May 26, 2001, as U.S. Merchant Marine and U.S. Navy Armed Guard Remembrance Week; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Legislature encourages all Nevadans to join in this observance, to coincide with National Maritime Day on May 22; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to Bill Erin, Secretary of the Las Vegas Chapter of the American Merchant Marine Veterans, for appropriate distribution to all Nevada media and interested organizations.