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**STATE OF NEVADA**

**OFFICE OF VETERANS' SERVICES**

February 26, 2003

Committee on Education, rm 3143

Good Afternoon, I am Chuck Fulkerson, Director, Office of Veterans Services

AB 52 will award high school diplomas to World War II veterans that left high school to go to war. The program originated in the state of Massachusetts and was entitled "Operation Recognition". Wisconsin and many other states have similar programs.

During the 1940's, thousands of young men and women across the country left high school to serve bravely in the armed forces during World War II. Their sacrifice ensured our freedom, built our country into a superpower, and shaped the entire course of history throughout the world. After the war, many of these veterans were not able to finish high school for various reasons, but have led productive lives and served our communities over a lifetime.

In recognition of their outstanding contribution, the Nevada Office of Veterans Services requests the Nevada State Legislature direct that eligible World War II veterans be awarded high school diplomas. This is a small, overdue gesture of our society's gratitude for the sacrifice these fellow citizens made in the name of freedom.

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION
DATE: 3/3/03 ROOM: 3143 EXHIBIT C
SUBMITTED BY: CHUCK FULKERSON