

IN THE SENATE

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 101

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

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2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, TO THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE OF IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.
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6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and the House of Representatives of
7 the State of Idaho assembled in the First Regular Session of the Sixty-sixth
8 Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

9 WHEREAS, the Medal of Honor is the United States of America's highest
10 and most-prestigious personal military decoration that may be awarded to
11 recognize United States military service members who have distinguished
12 themselves by acts of valor. The Medal of Honor represents the indomitable
13 spirit, determination, selflessness, and gallantry of those who, in the face
14 of overwhelming odds, performed far beyond the call of duty; and

15 WHEREAS, as members of the "Greatest Generation," which represented the
16 character and strength of the State of Idaho and the United States, Captain
17 Arthur Junior Jackson, United States Marine Corps, who served with the 3rd
18 Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, and Robert Dale Maxwell, United States Army,
19 who served with the 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, were both
20 awarded the Medal of Honor during World War II for gallantry, risking their
21 lives, and acting with valor. Both Captain Arthur Junior Jackson and Robert
22 Dale Maxwell, along with Idaho's other Medal of Honor recipients, are now deceased, leaving only memories of their heroic acts. The stories of these patriots' courage and valor during the war should never be forgotten; and

23 WHEREAS, the President of the United States holds the authority to designate a state funeral. A number of state funerals to honor our war heroes have been held in the past, including the 1921 state funeral for the Unknown Soldier of World War I and the 1964 state funeral honoring General Douglas MacArthur. These state funerals have offered our nation the opportunity to pause, reflect, and honor the service of those individuals and those who served alongside them; and

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32 WHEREAS, the last surviving Medal of Honor recipients from World War
33 II are 96-year-old Hershel "Woody" Williams, a retired United States Marine Corps warrant officer and United States Department of Veterans Affairs veterans service representative, and 99-year-old Charles H. Coolidge, who served as a United States Army technical sergeant.

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37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-sixth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that a state funeral be held at such time of the passing of the last World War II Medal of Honor recipient, to honor the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from World War II, and to honor those who served in World War II, such distinction giving our nation the opportunity to thank those who saved the world from Nazism, fascism, and mil-
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1 itaristic imperialism. This national recognition would also serve to honor
2 the 473 service members who were awarded the Medal of Honor for service dur-
3 ing World War II, along with the 16 million American men and women who faith-
4 fully served our nation, including many Idahoans, during that war, paying a
5 final salute to the millions of men and women of the "Greatest Generation"
6 who served our country from 1941 to 1945.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate be, and she
8 is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to
9 the President of the United States, to the President of the Senate and the
10 Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, and to the congres-
11 sional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the
12 United States.