

2.1 WHEREAS, the United States Congress enacted legislation on October 28, 2009,
2.2 authorizing the service secretaries to implement the respite leave benefit program for those
2.3 deserving service members; and

2.4 WHEREAS, the current economic and employment situation facing all veterans returning
2.5 to the United States is the worst recession since the Great Depression; and

2.6 WHEREAS, in order to return all the way home, the veterans of the 1st Brigade Combat
2.7 Team, 34th Infantry Division of the Minnesota National Guard deserve and need the benefits
2.8 promised to them by the United States Government; NOW, THEREFORE,

2.9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it urges President
2.10 Obama to order the Secretary of Defense and other responsible federal government officials to
2.11 promptly issue implementation guidance that will allow our Minnesota service members to submit
2.12 their claims to receive these benefits that they have been officially promised by the United States
2.13 Government and which they so honorably earned in combat.

2.14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota is
2.15 directed to prepare copies of this memorial and transmit them to President Obama, Minnesota's
2.16 Senators and Representatives in Congress, the Secretary of Defense, and the Chairman of the
2.17 Joint Chiefs of Staff.