

SENATE RESOLUTION 257

By Johnson

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the post-Vietnam War Era veterans of the Tennessee Military Collectors Association.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the United States have, throughout the years, been called upon to take up arms against the enemies of this great nation, risking their lives and leaving their loved ones behind to honorably safeguard the freedoms and liberties guaranteed to all Americans and vanquishing those who threaten our way of life; and

WHEREAS, the brave service of our men and women in uniform in the post-Vietnam War era continued this time-honored tradition of Tennessee volunteerism, as twenty-three members of the Tennessee Military Collectors Association answered the nation's call to service to defend democracy and our American way of life; and

WHEREAS, these individuals include John Burton, U.S. Navy; Colonel Mark Davenport (Ret.), U.S. Army; Gregg Galbreath, U.S. Army; Art Helms, U.S. Army; Captain David E. Hoagey, U.S. Air Force; Bruce Hohler, U.S. Coast Guard; Daniel Johnson, U.S. Army; Tom Kracker, U.S. Marine Corps; 1st Sergeant Edward Lawrence (Ret.), U.S. Army; Lieutenant Colonel Beason Layne (Ret.), U.S. Army; Jim Leslie, U.S. Army; Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Mitsko (Ret.), U.S. Army; Jim and Jill Nester, U.S. Air Force; William Parker, U.S. Army; Staff Sergeant Richard Roberts, U.S. Navy; Lewis Russell, U.S. Air Force; Sergeant Rob Schlafly, U.S. Marine Corps; Master Sergeant Mary "Kathie" Schuler (Ret.), U.S. Army; Command Chief

Warrant Officer John L. Schuler III (Ret.), U.S. Army; Mark Spencer, U.S. Army; Brigadier General Steven Turner, U.S. Army; Sergeant Bergin Tuttle (Ret.), U.S. Army; Dave Verissimo, U.S. Army; James Watson, U.S. Marine Corps; and Colonel Sam Whitson (Ret.), U.S. Army; and

WHEREAS, serving their country in times of peace and times of conflict, these selfless individuals demonstrated honor, hard and honest work, love of family and community, and the true courage it takes to lead such a life through their deeds and actions; and

WHEREAS, too many times, the courageous men and women who have served in the military have not been accorded the respect and gratitude they deserve for their courageous actions that ultimately helped shape the history of our great country; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should pause in our deliberations to recognize these honorable veterans who served with such dignity, aplomb, and grace; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and commend the post-Vietnam War era veterans of the Tennessee Military Collectors Association, thank them for their service to this great nation, and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.