

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.118

Rep. Markkanen offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day and
2 all of the Allied forces who fought along the beaches of Normandy
3 so that Europe might be free from the bonds of tyranny and
4 oppression.

5 Whereas, Seventy-five years ago on June 6, 1944, approximately
6 150,000 Allied troops landed along a heavily-fortified stretch of
7 French coastline, seeking to breach Fortress Europe and strike a
8 crucial blow against the fascism of Nazi Germany; and

9 Whereas, More than 5,000 ships and 11,000 aircraft supported
10 the invasion, making D-Day the largest air, land, and sea operation
11 ever undertaken; and

12 Whereas, These soldiers, many of whom were not yet even 20
13 years old, faced a daunting and perilous task, as they fought



1 through the ocean surf, braving artillery shells and machine gun
2 fire with little to no natural cover to protect against enemy guns;
3 and

4 Whereas, Allied forces suffered more than 10,000 casualties
5 that day with more than 4,000 Allied soldiers making the ultimate
6 sacrifice, laying down their lives on the beachheads of France in
7 the name of liberty; and

8 Whereas, Many sons of America were laid to rest in the
9 graveyards of Europe, young lives cut short before their time,
10 brave and valiant men sacrificing the promise of their lifetime to
11 lay footprints on the sands of Normandy, thousands of miles from
12 their homes; and

13 Whereas, Those brave men who waged battle on the Normandy
14 coast represent the best of mankind, embodying a love of country, a
15 dedication to humanity, and, above all else, a profound and
16 steadfast devotion to the causes of liberty and freedom; and

17 Whereas, All those American soldiers who lost their lives and
18 shed their blood on that fateful day are testaments to America's
19 enduring promise to forever stand tall against tyrannical
20 governments, to always protect and defend democracy, and to never
21 forget that our nation and all great nations were built upon the
22 principles of freedom; and

23 Whereas, We must ever and always remember and honor the men
24 who fought and died on that day, both those who returned home as
25 heroes, husbands, and fathers, and also those whom history called
26 to their final breath on Norman sands; and

27 Whereas, Michiganders, realizing full well that words ring
28 hollow in honoring the bravery, valiance, and courage of these men,
29 seek to honor their memories; now, therefore, be it

1 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
2 this legislative body commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day and
3 all of the Allied forces who fought along the beaches of Normandy
4 so that Europe might be free from the bonds of tyranny and
5 oppression. We encourage all Michiganders to observe the
6 anniversary of D-Day and to forever honor those souls whose eulogy
7 will always be a free and democratic Europe.