

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 39

WHEREAS, over ninety years ago citizens of the United States dedicated themselves to building a memorial to honor all the individuals who served in World War I; and

WHEREAS, this memorial, the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri, was intended to be “a living expression for all time of the gratitude of a grateful people to those who offered and who gave their lives in defense of liberty and our country;” and

WHEREAS, to that end, in 1919 the Liberty Memorial Association raised over \$2.5 million in just ten days to honor those who served in World War I; and

WHEREAS, in 1921, the five supreme allied commanders of the war from Belgium, Italy, France, Great Britain, and the United States gathered together in Kansas City, Missouri to dedicate the site for the Liberty Memorial; and

WHEREAS, the Liberty Memorial was designed, created, and dedicated by the same generation of individuals who lost their friends and family to World War I; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress designated the museum at the Liberty Memorial as America's National World War I Museum in 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior recognized the national and historical significance of the Liberty Memorial by declaring it a National Historic Landmark in 2006; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, an over 100 million dollar renovation of the memorial and museum was completed and the state-of-the-art National World War I Museum opened; and

WHEREAS, the centrally located Liberty Memorial has served as an easily accessible unofficial national memorial for decades:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-fifth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, believe that no more fitting memorial exists to the sacrifice of the brave men and women who served in World War I than the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri and urge the United States Congress to designate the Liberty Memorial as the National World War I Memorial by passing H.R. 1849 and S. 760, as proposed by the 1st Session of the 111th United States Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the Secretary of the Interior and each member of Missouri's congressional delegation.