

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Concurrent Resolution No. 6

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE JUSTUS.

0247H.011

WHEREAS, on April 19, 1775, the Continental Army engaged in the first battles of the Revolutionary War, known as the Battles of Lexington and Concord. The battles marked the outbreak of open armed conflict between the Kingdom of Great Britain and thirteen of its colonies on the mainland of British America to establish American independence; and

WHEREAS, the first Militia units (transforming into today's National Guard) were established in the Massachusetts Bay Colonies on December 13, 1636, armed to protect American citizens; and

WHEREAS, between 1775 and today over 41 million Americans have served in the Armed Forces of the United States, in addition to countless Militiamen between 1636 and 1775; and

WHEREAS, the United States suffered casualties of over 1.4 million men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice defending democracy and freedom, including scores of Missouri citizens who sacrificed their lives in defense of our country; and

WHEREAS, the people of Missouri wish to properly honor and thank the individual casualties and their families for their sacrifice and bravery; and

WHEREAS, war memorials are important reminders that freedom is not free and the soon-to-be constructed Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, located on the College of the Ozarks campus, will be dedicated to perpetuate the appreciation and legacy of our fallen hero warriors present and past; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument is to honor Gold Star families, relatives, and Gold Star children who have sacrificed a loved one in the services of their country and stand as a stark reminder that freedom is not free; and

29 WHEREAS, Branson, Missouri is known throughout the country as the “Veterans Capital
30 of the Nation”, hosting America’s largest Veterans Day celebration every year, and Branson is
31 home to the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument; and

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33 WHEREAS, the College of the Ozarks, located only a few miles from Branson, has
34 pledged to fully fund the construction of the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument designed
35 by the college’s graphic design class; and

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37 WHEREAS, it is appropriate to honor the fallen warriors from the state of Missouri by
38 recognizing the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, which is to be constructed on the
39 College of the Ozarks campus, as the official Gold Star Families Memorial Monument of the
40 state of Missouri:

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42 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the House of
43 Representatives of the Ninety-ninth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
44 concurring therein, hereby recognize the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, which is to
45 be constructed on the College of the Ozarks campus in Point Lookout, Missouri, as the official
46 Gold Star Families Memorial Monument of Missouri; and

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48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
49 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the
50 president of the College of the Ozarks and the Veterans and Military Coalition of the Ozarks in
51 Branson, Missouri; and

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53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the cost of all signs will be paid by the College of
54 the Ozarks; and

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56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Missouri department of transportation be
57 instructed to prepare and establish appropriate highway signage to recognize the location and
58 direction to the Missouri Gold Star Families Memorial Monument.

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