

May 4, 2016

RN 16 51683

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

By the Honorable Kansen Chu, 25th Assembly District;
Relative to commending

EARL BRUCE HEILMAN, Ph.D.

WHEREAS, Throughout the course of American history, courageous men and women have taken up arms to secure, defend, and maintain the core principles upon which our nation's freedoms depend, and Dr. Earl Bruce Heilman is one such stellar individual, a World War II veteran who has embarked on a 6,000-mile cross-country motorcycle ride to help raise public awareness of the upcoming series of seventy-fifth anniversaries for various important events that took place during World War II between the years of 1941 and 1945, beginning with the seventy-fifth anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor that occurred on December 7, 1941; and

WHEREAS, In commemorating this tragic day in American history, Dr. E. Bruce Heilman is honoring the more than 2,000 Americans who died during the attack and reminding the public of the true meaning of Memorial Day, which is to remember the sacrifices of those who gave their lives in service to our country and underscore the understanding that Americans must remain alert and vigilant toward our own self-defense; and

WHEREAS, Beginning his long journey from his hometown in Kentucky, Dr. Heilman--a veteran of World War II's final military confrontation, the Battle of Okinawa--endeavors to visit several states whose ships in Pearl Harbor were sunk or heavily damaged during the attack that would send the U.S. to war, including the *USS Arizona*, *USS Oklahoma*, *USS California*, *USS Utah*, *USS Nevada*, and *USS West Virginia*; Dr. Heilman is undaunted by the prospect of riding thousands of miles atop a heavily equipped motorcycle as he has already made such long trips in the past, including a similar ride in 2015 to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the end of World War II, as well as a 10,000-mile trip to Alaska in 2014 to honor his late wife, Betty, who gave him his first Harley-Davidson on their fiftieth wedding anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Distinguishing himself for more than 30 years as the Chancellor of the University of Richmond, having devoted

his life to education as an instructor and administrator, including as the president of several American colleges and universities, Dr. Heilman will conclude his epic ride in Richmond, Virginia, and then join the annual Rolling Thunder rally in Washington, D.C., before ultimately participating in the National Memorial Day Parade; and

WHEREAS, This special cross-country journey is Dr. E. Bruce Heilman's tribute to America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good, and in addition to applauding his vigor and perseverance throughout the ride, it is appropriate to commend him for the courageous manner with which he served and sacrificed in the safeguarding of our democratic principles for this generation and for generations to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY ASSEMBLY MEMBER KANSEN CHU, That he proudly recognizes Dr. Earl Bruce Heilman before the members of the California State Assembly, commends his efforts in promoting the seventy-fifth anniversaries of World War II and the attack on Pearl Harbor, as well as his many achievements in education and veterans services, and expresses his sincere appreciation to him for his dedication to duty and country and for his honorable

and faithful service to the United States of America.

Dated this 12th day of May, 2016.

Honorable Kansen Chu
25th Assembly District