



2001 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 40

September 20, 2001 - Introduced by Senators ZIEN, SCHULTZ, BURKE, HUELSMAN, ROESSLER, WELCH, DARLING, HARSORF and LAZICH, cosponsored by Representatives SUDER, MUSSER, VRAKAS, SCHNEIDER, KREIBICH, HUEBSCH, ALBERS, LADWIG, OWENS, TURNER, BALOW, URBAN, FREESE, GRONEMUS, RHOADES, PLALE, HAHN, SKINDRUD, OTT, SYKORA, KRAWCZYK, LASSA, GUNDERSON, RYBA, PETTIS, PETROWSKI and STARZYK. Referred to Committee on Health, Utilities, Veterans and Military Affairs.

1 **Relating to:** urging the U.S. Congress to designate The Highground Veterans
2 Memorial Park a national park or a national monument.

3 Whereas, in 1968, Tom Miller, holding his mortally wounded friend on a
4 battlefield in Vietnam, made a vow that his friend's death would not be forgotten; and

5 Whereas, in 1983, Miller and others, having made similar vows, explored the
6 possibility of creating a memorial to Vietnam veterans and formally incorporated the
7 Wisconsin Vietnam veterans memorial project a year later; and

8 Whereas, the Wisconsin Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park near Neillsville,
9 Wisconsin, later known as The Highground Veterans Memorial Park, was dedicated
10 in 1988 to honor veterans and their families and to educate the public about the
11 human cost of war; and

12 Whereas, the Vietnam veterans tribute located at The Highground is the first
13 veterans tribute in the United States to include a woman in the statuary and is one
14 of the first memorials in the United States to pay specific tribute to women veterans;
15 and

1 Whereas, The Highground is home of the national Native American Vietnam
2 veterans memorial, the first national memorial to come to the Veterans Memorial
3 Park; and

4 Whereas, the earthen dove effigy mound, measuring 100 feet from head to tail
5 and having a 140-foot wingspan, pays tribute to those who were prisoners of war
6 (POWs) and to those who remain missing in action (MIA); and

7 Whereas, the gold star, measuring 125 feet from point to point, is a living tribute
8 to all families who have lost a loved one during any of our nation's conflicts; and

9 Whereas, the nurse statue pays tribute to all women who have served our
10 nation; and

11 Whereas, the World War II veterans tribute is a 5-foot diameter earth globe on
12 a granite base that represents the world's involvement in this war that touched every
13 continent in some way; and

14 Whereas, the doughboy statue, with his rifle at parade rest and his right hand
15 outstretched as in a greeting or farewell, honors World War I veterans and embodies
16 The Highground's commitment to memorialize not war, but the services and
17 sacrifices of veterans and their families; and

18 Whereas, neither a national park nor a national monument currently exists in
19 the state of Wisconsin; and

20 Whereas, The Highground Veterans Memorial Park is a tribute to veterans and
21 their families with national scope and significance, and may be worthy of designation
22 as a national park or a national monument; now, therefore, be it

23 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the Wisconsin
24 legislature urges the U.S. Congress to designate The Highground Veterans
25 Memorial Park a national park or a national monument; and, be it further

1 ***Resolved, That*** the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
2 resolution to the president of the United States, to the president and secretary of the
3 U.S. Senate, to the speaker and clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, and to
4 each member of the congressional delegation from this state attesting the adoption
5 of this joint resolution by the 2001 legislature of the state of Wisconsin.

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(END)