

1 HR308
2 202358-1
3 By Representatives Hall and Daniels
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 31-MAY-19

COMMENDING MR. HAROLD MCMURRAN FOR HIS MILITARY
SERVICE.

WHEREAS, Mr. Harold McMurran, a member of the
"Greatest Generation," served with distinction in the 546th
Ordnance Company of the United States Army during World War
II; and

WHEREAS, in a landing ship tank with other American
soldiers, Mr. McMurran was a part of a 275-member unit that
went ashore on D-Day to liberate France from Nazi occupation
on June 6, 1944; and

WHEREAS, just four days shy of his 20th birthday,
Mr. McMurran's unit was deployed to retrieve damaged heavy
equipment, sent in behind the 4th Infantry; landing on Utah
Beach around 7 o'clock in the morning, he vividly recalls the
scene, describing the waves of soldiers going in one after the
other, barely getting off the beach because the Germans had
hedgerows as barriers; with bullets flying everywhere,
artillery shells bursting all around, and people lying all
over the place, some wounded, some dead, Mr. McMurran recounts

1 that it took them six weeks to fight through the hedgerows;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, becoming a part of General George Patton's
4 Third Army, during the worst winter he can remember, Mr.
5 McMurran fought in the Battle of the Bulge from December 16,
6 1944, to January 25, 1945, a major German offensive campaign
7 launched through the densely forested Ardennes region of
8 Wallonia in Belgium, France, and Luxembourg on the Western
9 Front toward the end of World War II in Europe; and

10 WHEREAS, with unwavering courage and selfless
11 dedication, Mr. McMurran fought alongside so many other brave
12 soldiers and has received a battle star from two of World War
13 II's most important battles; he also recently received the
14 Legion of Honor from the French Government; and

15 WHEREAS, in honor of the 75th anniversary of D-Day
16 and the 244th birthday of the United States Army, the citizens
17 of the State of Alabama and the United States owe never-ending
18 gratitude to patriots such as Mr. Harold McMurran who have
19 courageously defended American freedoms against ruthless
20 enemies; exhibiting strength, determination, and national
21 pride; he endured the rigors of combat, and has earned the
22 deepest respect and grateful admiration of all Americans; now
23 therefore,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
25 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Mr. Harold McMurran is most
26 highly honored for his patriotism and commitment under fire on
27 D-Day, June 6, 1944, at the Battle of the Bulge, and

1 throughout his military career, and this resolution is offered
2 on behalf of the State of Alabama in grateful tribute to his
3 exceptional and heroic service to our state and our country.