

MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION
SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

4048

2001 SENATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

SCR 4048

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR4048

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 22, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		0.0-7.5
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Mary Jo Wocken</i>			

Minutes:

The hearing was opened for SCR4048 which was a concurrent resolution urging the issuance of a postage stamp to honor the Purple Heart medal and those who have received the Purple Heart medal. All the senators were present for the hearing.

SENATOR TALLACKSON: District 16. Sponsor of SCR4048. I was attending an inquiry meeting three weeks ago in South Carolina, Senator Larkin from New York who's been pushing the sponsoring stamp honoring the Purple Heart medal. This actually started a year ago in May, and of all things he is getting resistance from the postmasters of the ones in charge of the stamps. They claim there is so many veterans organizations out there that is they start honoring one they will have to honor them all. Which is ridiculous because they have Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck and everything else. The idea, what we talked about was the we needed some pressure from some of the states and some citizens that would write letters and the idea behind this resolution is to encourage the Postmaster General to issue a stamp with a Purple Heart. If you

have your resolution in front of you, it describes much of the history of the Purple Heart. It was actually started by George Washington and then discontinued for many years until 1931, and then actually General McArthur revived it and since that time it has developed into a beautiful medal. It is awarded to people who are wounded or killed in military action of the country. So, this resolution, I would like to have passed this morning would be to asked them to develop a stamp and issue it to honor the Purple Heart Medal. See attachment from the Internet Web site.

SENATOR MATHERN: That is what I was just going to ask if someone had a sample of the, do you have a photo? SENATOR TALLACKSON: And then there is a Web site on the bottom that you can go for more information. But that is actually ten or twelve pages of information that

Senator Lark sent me. SENATOR FLAKOLL: This applied to any branch of the service? Is that correct? SENATOR TALLACKSON: Yes. SENATOR FLAKOLL: If someone else knows the proper answer, because I am just curious, I know what the medal looks like Senator Tallackson, but I was kind of curious of the origination of why it was the purple, I mean the medal, I thought it was purple, but that shows, but the only thing I am guessing is that I know that when the physiology of stress and stuff comes along, there is some changes that cause the heart to actually change in color not only stressed out but also someone who may be deceased. I don't know if that relates to that or not? Do we know the background on why it was the purple rather than the?

SENATOR TALLACKSON: I should probably call your doctor. SENATOR FLAKOLL: I am just curious, I don't know if we know the answer or not. SENATOR TALLACKSON: It is explained in this material from the Web site. Actually they believed that it was taken from the cape of George Washington when they developed the medal. It was a purple cloth that it started out to represent, and they changed it to a better looking medal. But it actually was from purple cloth that was supposed to be dyed. SENATOR WATNE: Purple has been the color of royal. So

you think it would be very logical. ARNOLD MAIER: A veteran of WWII, I have a Purple Heart on my license plate and a lapel label which indicates also a purple heart. I think this is a wonderful thing that is being done on behalf of recipients of the Purple Heart and I commend you to do this and hope, I am sure you will to give this a Do Pass. I think it is wonderful. JOHN JACOBSEN: Some of you thought the color blood, the color of blood, red blood is oxygenated blood, arterial blood. Veinous blood is purple, so I don't know if that is one of the reasons or not. My war was Persian Gulf, and Desert Storm. Shortly after we returned home there was a stamp issued in honor of all of those who served in southwest Asia, we called it the Desert Storm Stamp. I think the Purple Heart Stamp is long in coming. So I urge you to give a Do Pass recommendation to this. ROBERT HANSEN: I represent the Veterans' Coordinating Council. I am an unfortunate one who does not have a Purple Heart medal. I say that in all sincerity because those who have that have really gone through something that none of us want to have to do. But we certainly, the Coordinating Council are fully behind this resolution and ask for your favorable consideration. SENATOR FLAKOLL: Quickly scanning this here, do we have a number of any kind of reference as far as an estimate or guesstimate or number of current living Purple Heart recipients? ROBERT HANSEN: I am sure that is somewhere, we don't have it. But everyone who is a casualty, who've lost their lives in a war conflict automatically receives that Purple Heart. We've lost literally millions, I don't know how many still have it. SENATOR FLAKOLL: Makes for good speech material. SENATOR COOK: Committee, our intern is good at passing little notes of information, dying tissue becomes purple.

Hearing Closed on SCR 4048.

Page 4
Senate Political Subdivisions Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SCR4048
Hearing Date March 22, 2001

Senator Polovitz moved a Do Pass

Senator Lyson- 2nd

Roll Call vote: 8 Yeas, 0 No, 0 Absent

Carrier: Senator Lyson

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 22, 2001 12:45 p.m.

Module No: SR-50-6400
Carrier: Lyson
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SCR 4048: Political Subdivisions Committee (Sen. Cook, Chairman) recommends DO PASS (8 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4048 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2001 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SCR 4048

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR 4048

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 3/29/01

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		0-957
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Robert Small</i>			

Minutes:

REP. M. KLEIN called the hearing to order with all committee members present.

In favor:

SEN. HARVEY TALLACKSON, DISTRICT 16

Please see attached testimony.

TALLACKSON states to the committee that he went to a meeting in South Carolina, and they have been trying to get this stamp for over a year. But there is much resistance from the postmaster. The Purple Heart was established in 1782 by George Washington. TALLACKSON also comments to the committee that REP. KLEMIN also has received the Purple Heart. REP. METCALF asks why is the postmaster resisting this so much. TALLACKSON states that he is not quite sure why he is against this. There has been stamps about Donald Duck, I Love Lucy, Star Wars and other things that really don't have any substance behind them. REP.

Page 2

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SCR 4048

Hearing Date 3/29/01

GRANDE asks what other states are participating in this. TALLACKSON replies that he doesn't know that.

In favor:

ARNOLD MAIER, N.D.V.C. COUNCIL, WORLD WAR II VETERAN, SELF

MAIER states that he has also received the distinguished Purple Heart award. MAIER then talks to the committee about other recipients that have received the Purple Heart and the many scrapes that they were into together. MAIER tells the committee that he was over in Italy. REP. KLEIN asks if he was in the Italian campaign. MAIER replies yes, he was there. MAIER then comments to the committee that it will be so wonderful to tell ones grandchildren all about the Purple Heart, and the prestige it carries. REP. BRUSEGAARD asks about the Purple Heart being discontinued for awhile. MAIER replies that is true and it was brought back in the thirties, by Mac Arthur.

In favor:

BOB HANSON, NDVCC

This stamp would not commemorate the branch of services, the Purple heart is an award.

Being there was no further testimony in favor or in opposition the hearing was then closed.

REP. BELLEW then motions for a DO PASS, seconded by REP. METCALE.

Discussion: REP. KLEMIN comments to the committee that he does not understand why the postmaster would be so resistant to this stamp. It doesn't make any economic sense. Doesn't the postmaster realize how many people out there, just alone, would want to collect this stamp?

The roll call vote was taken with 15 YES, 0 NO and 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING. The motion carries. The CARRIER of the bill is REP. KLEMIN.

Page 3
House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SCR 4048
Hearing Date 3/29/01

ARNOLD MAIER then addresses the committee again and thanks them. REP. BELLEW then in return, thanks ARNOLD MAIER for serving for our country.

SCR 4048: DO PASS AND PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR 15-0

CARRIER: REP. KLEMIN

Date: March 29th, 2001

Roll Call Vote #: 1

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR 4048

House GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS Committee

Subcommittee on _____

or

Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken No Pass - Placed on the Consent Calendar

Motion Made By Bellew Seconded By Metcalf

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
CHAIRMAN KLEIN	✓		REP KROEBER	✓	
VICE CHAIR GRANDE	✓				
REP BELLEW	✓				
REP BRUSEGAARD	✓				
REP CLARK	✓				
REP DEVLIN	✓				
REP HAAS	✓				
REP KASPER	✓				
REP KLEMIN	✓				
REP MEIER	✓				
REP WIKENHEISER	✓				
REP CLEARY	✓				
REP HUNSKOR	✓				
REP METCALF	✓				

Total (Yes) 15 No 0

Absent _____

Floor Assignment Rep. Klemm

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 29, 2001 9:23 a.m.

Module No: HR-55-7078
Carrier: Klemin
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SCR 4048: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. M. Klein, Chairman)
recommends **DO PASS** and **BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR** (15 YEAS,
0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4048 was placed on the Tenth order
on the calendar.

2001 TESTIMONY

SCR 4048



The Purple Heart

What is it?

The ORDER of the PURPLE HEART for MILITARY MERIT, commonly called "The Purple Heart", is an American decoration - the oldest military decoration in the world in present use and the first award made available to a common soldier. It was created by one of the world's most famed and best-loved heroes - General George Washington.

General Washington is often pictured as a cold, stern soldier, a proud aristocrat, a martinet. Perhaps he was all of these at times. Yet we know he showed sympathy and concern for his troops, and was not too proud to pray, humbly on his knees, for his beloved country and for the men who served it, and him, so bravely and loyalty. His keen appreciation of the importance of the common soldier in any campaign impelled him to recognize outstanding valor and merit by granting a commission or an advance in rank for the person concerned. In the summer of 1782 he was ordered by the Continental Congress to cease doing so - there were no funds to pay the **soldiers**, much less the officers!



Deprived of his usual means of reward, he must have searched for a substitute. Shortly after receiving the "stop" order from Congress, he wrote his memorable General Orders of August 7, 1782, which read in part as follows:

"The General, ever desirous to cherish virtuous ambition in his soldiers as well as foster and encourage every species of military merit, directs that whenever any singularly meritorious action is performed, the author of it shall be permitted to wear on his facings, over his left breast, the figure of a heart in purple cloth or silk edged with narrow lace or binding. Not only instances of unusual gallantry but also of extraordinary fidelity and essential service in any way shall meet with due reward... The name and regiment of the persons so certified are to be enrolled in a Book of Merit which shall be kept in the orderly room... Men who have merited this distinction to be suffered to pass all guards and sentinels which officers are permitted to do... The order to be retroactive to the earliest stages of the war, and to be a permanent one... The road to glory in a patriot army and a free country is thus open to all."

Lost or misfiled for almost 150 years among the War Department Records at Washington, D.C., this important paper came to light during the search for Washington's papers prior to the celebration of his Bi-Centennial in 1932. With it were the dramatic accounts of three soldiers who received the decoration at Newburgh, N.Y., at Washington's Headquarters. The book of Merit has not been found. The U.S. War Department revived the Purple Heart decoration on February 22, 1932. The revived form is of metal, instead of perishable cloth, made in the shape of a rich purple heart bordered with gold, with a bust of Washington in the center and the Washington coat-of-arms at the top. The latter is believed to have been the source of the stars and stripes of the American Flag.

Intrinsically, the Purple Heart is the world's costliest military decoration - nineteen separate operations are required to make it from the rough heart stamped from bronze to the finished medal, plated with gold and enameled in various colors, suspended from a purple and white ribbon.

The ORDER of the PURPLE HEART is awarded to members of the armed forces of the U.S. who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action. It is definitely a combat decoration.

An organization now known as the "Military Order of the Purple Heart," was formed in 1932 for the protection and mutual interest of all who have received the decoration. Composed exclusively of Purple Heart recipients, it is the only strictly "combat" organization in existence.

Funds for welfare, rehabilitation and/or service work carried on by the organization are derived almost entirely from the annual distribution of its official flower, The Purple Heart Viola. These are assembled by disabled and needy veterans, many of whom receive little or no compensation from other sources. Thus your contribution for a Viola serves a two-fold purpose - it helps the veteran who assembled it, and enables the organization to do many things in behalf of hospitalized and needy veterans and their families.

The Purple Heart Viola on your lapel is evidence that YOU have not forgotten the price of liberty paid in the past and still being paid by those who have borne the brunt of battle in defense of America.

Close relatives of Purple Heart recipients are eligible to belong to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, which does important work nationally and locally in Veterans' Hospitals. Further information about the Order and its auxiliary may be obtained from the National Headquarters as listed below.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart
5413-B Backlick Road
Springfield, Virginia 22151
(703) 642-5360
(703) 642-2054 (fax)



Return to MOPH Home Page

Membership
Information

VA Benefits
Assistance

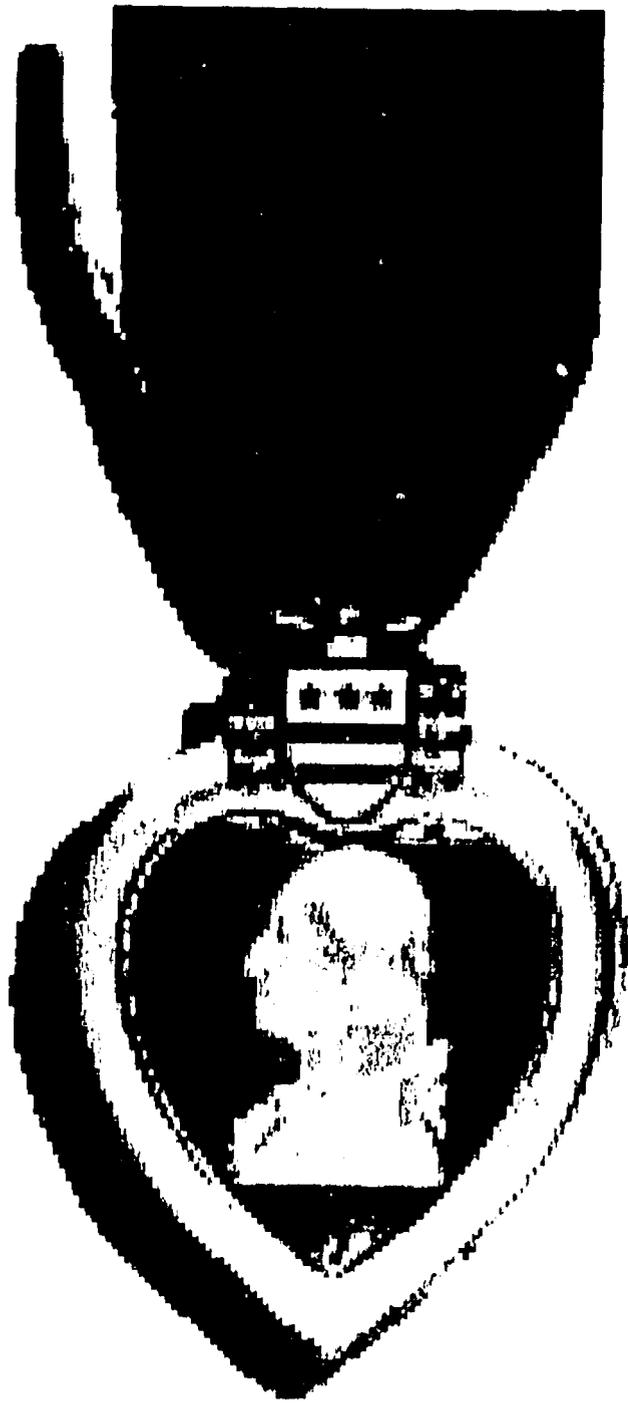
Service
Foundation

MOPH Ladies
Auxiliary

MOPH
Magazine

Links of
Interest

If you have any questions please email them to info@purpleheart.org
This site was produced and is maintained by K&C Technology Corporation.
Questions may be sent to webmaster@ket.com.



The Purple Heart



1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES

JOHN L. JACOBSEN
MEMBER
NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1111 CENTRAL AVENUE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002
TEL: 713/865-1234