

28 WHEREAS, over 16 million Americans served their country and the Allied powers
29 over the course of the war;

30 WHEREAS, the generation of men and women who served our country in World War
31 II has been called "the greatest generation" for their selfless sacrifice in the face of global
32 tyranny;

33 WHEREAS, the Medal of Honor is the highest military decoration awarded by the
34 United States government;

35 WHEREAS, the Medal of Honor is presented by the President of the Untied States, in
36 the name of Congress;

37 WHEREAS, the Medal of Honor is only conferred upon members of the United States
38 Armed Forces who distinguish themselves through conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the
39 risk of their own lives above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in military operations
40 involving conflict with an opposing foreign force;

41 WHEREAS, more than 3,400 Medals of Honor have been awarded to our nation's
42 bravest soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and coast guardsmen since the creation of the award
43 in 1861;

44 WHEREAS, the Medal of Honor was awarded to 473 Americans during World War II;

45 WHEREAS, only ~~two~~ one of those 473 Americans ~~are~~ is alive today;

46 WHEREAS, ~~Charles H. Coolidge of Tennessee and~~ Hershel Woodrow Williams
46a of

47 West Virginia ~~both~~ served ~~their~~ his country with conspicuous gallantry and
47a intrepidity at the risk of

48 ~~their~~ his own ~~lives~~ life and therefore ~~deserve~~ deserves the
48a gratitude of the American people;

49 WHEREAS, the President of the United States has the sole authority to designate a
50 state funeral;

51 WHEREAS, historically, the President of the United States has designated state
52 funerals for former presidents, generals, and other extraordinary Americans;

53 WHEREAS, our nation is currently divided and yearns for a unifying national event;
54 and

55 WHEREAS, designating a state funeral when the last surviving World War II Medal of
56 Honor recipient dies would be a wonderful way for the American people to unite and honor all
57 16 million soldiers, sailors, and airmen who served in our Armed Forces from 1941 to 1945:

58 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the