

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 135

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 1, 1997

By Senator SCHLUTER

- 1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** calling on the Congress of the United States
2 to name a new U.S. Navy vessel in honor of Admiral John D. Bulkeley.
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- 4 **WHEREAS**, Admiral John D. Bulkeley, who passed away on April 6, 1996,
5 at the age of 84, was a nationally recognized military hero, with a long and
6 distinguished record of service in the Navy that included combat service in
7 two wars and a bewildering variety of other meritorious service; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, A pioneer in patrol torpedo (PT) boat tactics, Bulkeley's
9 outstanding exploits during World War II included the defense of the
10 Philippines during the beginning of the war in the Pacific Theater, involving
11 a series of stunning attacks on Japanese shipping with the legendary Motor
12 Torpedo Boat Squadron Three, which he commanded, and with which he
13 accomplished the daring rescue of General Douglas MacArthur and his
14 staff from the Philippines as the islands fell to the Japanese; and
- 15 **WHEREAS**, In recognition of his valiant efforts during the early stages of the
16 war in the Pacific, President Roosevelt decorated Bulkeley with the Medal
17 of Honor, the nation's highest military award, and one of more than two
18 dozen combat decorations, citations, service awards and campaign medals
19 received from the United States and from foreign nations during his
20 extraordinary military career; and
- 21 **WHEREAS**, After serving in several Pacific Theater operations, Bulkeley was
22 called to England where he further distinguished himself through his
23 contributions to the D-Day invasion of German-occupied France on June
24 6, 1944; and
- 25 **WHEREAS**, Admiral Bulkeley saw additional wartime action as a ship
26 commander during the Korean War at the Inchon landings, and thereafter
27 served some ten years later as commander of the Guantanamo Naval Base
28 in Cuba during the 1960's where he successfully confronted Fidel Castro
29 over the issue of potable water for the base; and
- 30 **WHEREAS**, In addition to receiving the nation's highest military award, the
31 Medal of Honor, Admiral Bulkeley's other distinguished military
32 decorations included the Navy Cross, two Distinguished Service Crosses,
33 the Distinguished Service Medal, two Silver Stars, two Legion of Merits
34 with combat "V" and the Purple Heart, thereby making him one of New
35 Jersey's--and the nation's--premier war heros; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Admiral Bulkeley's record of accomplishment throughout his 55-
2 year military career has served as a model of excellence and devotion to
3 duty for many thousands of midshipmen at the Naval Academy who have
4 looked up to him as an inspiring leader and tireless defender of freedom for
5 our country; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Given the years of dedication to the U.S. Navy and distinguished
7 service to this country by Admiral Bulkeley, it is the belief of this House
8 that the United States Congress should name a new Navy vessel in his
9 honor; now, therefore,

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11 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the General*
12 *Assembly concurring):*

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14 1. This House calls on the United States Congress to name a new U.S.
15 Navy vessel in honor of Admiral John D. Bulkeley.

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17 2. Duly authenticated copies of this concurrent resolution, signed by the
18 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the General Assembly and attested
19 by the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the General Assembly, shall
20 be transmitted to the Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the
21 United States House of Representatives, the Majority and Minority Leaders
22 in each House, and each of the members of Congress elected from this State.

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25 STATEMENT

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27 This resolution calls on the United States Congress to name a new U.S.
28 Navy vessel in honor of Admiral John D. Bulkeley.

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