

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 13**

Whereas Kenneth Allen Jernstedt was born July 20, 1917, to Fred and Mae Jernstedt in Carlton, Oregon; and

Whereas Kenneth Jernstedt grew up on a farm on the Yamhill River, graduating from Yamhill High School in 1935; and

Whereas after graduating from Linfield College in 1939, Kenneth Jernstedt enlisted with the United States Marine Air Corps, earning his Aviator Badge in 1941; and

Whereas at age 24 Kenneth Jernstedt volunteered for the American Volunteer Group, led by retired Air Force General Claire Lee Chennault, to assist the Chinese Nationalist Party government of the Republic of China against Japanese invasion; and

Whereas Kenneth Jernstedt became a squadron leader of the 1st American Volunteer Group, known as the Flying Tigers; and

Whereas Kenneth Jernstedt was Oregon's first ace in World War II, with a total of 10.5 "kills" to his credit; and

Whereas in 1942 Kenneth Jernstedt became a test pilot and tested nearly every United States fighter aircraft used in World War II; and

Whereas in 1946 Kenneth Jernstedt and his wife, Laura Elliot, settled in Hood River, Oregon, with their son, and soon had three daughters; and

Whereas Kenneth Jernstedt entered the soft drink business, operating Mid-Columbia Coca-Cola until 1968; and

Whereas after Laura's death in 1960, Kenneth Jernstedt married Genevieve Weder Carl in 1962 and became the father to her three young children; and

Whereas Kenneth Jernstedt served as the mayor of Hood River from 1959 to 1961 and then was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in 1966 and the Oregon Senate in 1968; and

Whereas Kenneth Jernstedt was a member of the 1977 Republican "phone booth" caucus along with such other members as Governor Victor G. Atiyeh, State Treasurer Tony Meeker, Congressman Bob Smith, Oregon Supreme Court Chief Justice Wally Carson and Senator George Wingard; and

Whereas Kenneth Jernstedt joined General Chennault as a charter member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1; and

Whereas in 1996 Kenneth Jernstedt was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, becoming one of the 17 living Flying Tigers recognized by the United States government for their volunteer service during World War II; and

Whereas Kenneth Jernstedt passed away on February 5, 2013, at the age of 95; now, therefore,

**Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

That we, the members of the Seventy-seventh Legislative Assembly, honor Kenneth Allen Jernstedt for his life of service to the United States and the State of Oregon.

Filed in the office of Secretary of State May 24, 2013