

1 A RESOLUTION honoring and memorializing Lieutenant John M. Spalding.

2 WHEREAS, John M. Spalding was a proud son of this great Commonwealth,
3 having been born in Owensboro on December 17, 1914; and

4 WHEREAS, Lieutenant John M. Spalding was an instrumental figure in the Allied
5 victory in World War II, and his heroism is rightfully honored by this august body on this
6 day; and

7 WHEREAS, on June 6, 1944, D-Day, Lieutenant Spalding, disregarding his own
8 personal safety, led his men up Omaha Beach into the cover of a small cliff. Lieutenant
9 Spalding commanded his unit, which had suffered several casualties, over an
10 embankment and across a mine field, where they could attack critical enemy strongpoints
11 from a better vantage; and

12 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Spalding's men successfully destroyed those strongpoints,
13 and he personally took down an anti-tank gun which had been firing from the beach; and

14 WHEREAS, upon receiving the Distinguished Service Cross from the United States
15 Army, it was noted that Lieutenant Spalding's "personal bravery and superior
16 leadership...exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States and
17 reflect great credit upon himself, the 1st Infantry Division, and the United States Army";
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Spalding was also the recipient of two Purple Hearts and
20 valiantly served in the Battle of the Bulge; and

21 WHEREAS, after his return from combat, Lieutenant Spalding served in the
22 Kentucky House of Representatives; and

23 WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this body honor those military servicemen from
24 the Commonwealth of Kentucky who went above and beyond their station and displayed
25 uncommon courage in defense of the ideals that have shaped America and its citizens;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, in this spirit, Lieutenant John M. Spalding is hereby honored on this

1 day for his bravery during D-Day, and further commended not only for his actions during
2 World War II but also for his service to this Commonwealth as a lawmaker, a patriot, and
3 a Kentuckian of the first order;

4 NOW, THEREFORE,

5 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
6 *Kentucky:*

7 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby acknowledge the life and legacy
8 of Lieutenant John M. Spalding, one of the most enduring heroes of World War II, and
9 honor him for his extraordinary service to the United States of America on D-Day.

10 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving
11 memory of Lieutenant John M. Spalding.

12 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
13 Resolution to Senator Matt Castlen for delivery to the family.