

Rep. Franz offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 44.

A resolution to declare June 8, 2011, as Remember The USS *Liberty* Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, It is the actions of the brave that allow us to live free in this great democracy that we so treasure; and

Whereas Veterans throughout our history have answered the clarion call to duty, defended America and built this land of incomparable greatness for the generations to come; and

Whereas, No one has given more to our nation and to the cause of freedom than the men and women of the United States military, many of whom have made the ultimate sacrifice; and

Whereas, We remember and honor the men of the USS *Liberty*; and

Whereas, The USS *Liberty*, AGTR5, a US Navy intelligence gathering ship, was operating in international waters off the Sinai Peninsula on June 8, 1967; and

Whereas, The Six-Day War was in progress; and

Whereas, The USS *Liberty* was clearly marked and flying the American Flag; and

Whereas, Both the naval and air force arms of the Israeli Defense Forces strafed and torpedoed the USS *Liberty* at will with devastating consequence; and

Whereas, Those military and civilian personnel who suffered casualties, including thirty-four fatalities and 172 injured, will never be forgotten; and

Whereas, The US Navy and the National Security Agency intelligence chiefs familiar with the unprovoked attack by an “allied government” have stated unequivocally that Israeli forces had clearly identified the USS *Liberty*; and

Whereas, The commanding officer, Captain William McGonagle and the valiant crew attempted to save the ship from total destruction while awaiting US Navy assistance; and

Whereas, On that day the USS *Liberty*’s crew responded valiantly. Captain William McGonagle earned the Congressional Medal of Honor for extraordinary heroism and his ship received the Presidential Unit Citation; and

Whereas, We will remember the service of the crew of the USS *Liberty*, patriots united in their mission, patriots who embraced the cause of all who serve to make our world safe for democracy; and

Whereas, It is appropriate that we recognize all who are standing today at this very hour in harm’s way in the frontlines in defense of freedom, affording us all the opportunity to hold dear and fully enjoy our inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare June 8, 2011, as Remember The USS *Liberty* Day in the state of Michigan.