## A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HR 1288 "WWII MERCHANT MARINERS SERVICE ACT"

WHEREAS; Public Laws 95-202 and 105-368 bestowed veteran status on US Merchant Marine Seaman of WWII; and

WHERAS; the USCG relieved Masters of tugs, towboats and seagoing barges of the responsibility of submitting reports of seaman shipped and discharged; and

WHEREAS the National Maritime Administration ordered ship's logbooks to be destroyed because they were too costly to maintain, thus removing the two main criteria required by the government to issue this official recognition to those seamen; and

WHEREAS; some elderly and disable seamen, some school children and some women served while being denied Official USCG credentials now required for proving service; and

WHEREAS; those specific U.S. Government actions by the U.S. Government and certain social conditions have resulted in some 10,000 to 30,000 merchant seaman being denied their due recognition; and

WHEREAS; minimal costs are associated with this proposal as these funds are already included in the aforementioned public laws; therefore be it

**RESOLVED;** Disabled American Veterans, Department of North Carolina, K.J. Eyer Chapter 64, Inc. supports HR 1288 "WWII Merchant Mariners Service Act" which expands the allowable documentation the Secretary of Homeland Security can accept as proof of service for these Merchant Mariners, and so orders that this Resolution be submitted to the Department Convention for their consideration and approval and subsequent submission to National Headquarters for their consideration and approval.

Adopted by the Chapter in regular session, on this 4th Day of June, 2013

Jimmy W. Rouse, Commander K. J. Eyer, Jr Chapter 64, NC DAV Jean R. Chamblee, Adjutant K. J. Eyer, Jr. Chapter 64, NC DAV

Presented to the Disabled American Veterans Department of North Carolina, Inc. annual Convention and approved and adopted by the Convention in regular session on this <u>87#</u> day of June, 2013 at Raleigh, NC for submission to National.

Barry J. Blevins

Department of NC Commander

Steve R. Anderson

Department of NC Adjutant

Copy to: Richard D. Mann, Judge Advocate