

No. R-39. House concurrent resolution congratulating Nathaniel Boone on being named a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal

(H.C.R.4)

Offered by: Representatives Wilson of Manchester, Browning of Arlington, Goodwin of Weston, and Komline of Dorset

Whereas, the Congressional Gold Medal is the highest civilian honor Congress bestows, and

Whereas, the congressional commissioning of gold medals predates the Declaration of Independence with the first having been presented to George Washington on March 25, 1776, and other medals have since been awarded to many distinguished recipients, and

Whereas, a prerequisite for the consideration of candidates for Congressional Gold Medal designation is that the authorizing federal legislation have a minimum of two-thirds' sponsorship in its originating chamber, and

Whereas, one of the newest recipients is Nathaniel (Nate) Boone of Manchester who was presented a Congressional Gold Medal on June 27 at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., and

Whereas, Nate Boone was honored as one of approximately 400 African-American Marines of the 20,000 who between 1942 and 1949 completed Marine boot camp at the segregated Montford Point training facility located at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and

Whereas, these patriotic Americans served their country under extremely difficult circumstances, having been required to not only meet the rigorous demands made of every Marine but also endure hostile superiors who often disrespected them and did not want them to be part of the U.S. Marine Corps, and

Whereas, following his discharge in 1948 as a corporal, Nate Boone graduated from Bates College and Boston University Law School, and

Whereas, in 1989, Nate Boone retired from the practice of law in New Jersey, and his wife and he moved permanently to Manchester after having been part-time residents in Winhall for many years, and

Whereas, Nate Boone has been a leader in the Manchester community, chairing the board of directors at Hildene, serving as a deacon and on committees at the First Congregational Church, and working on behalf of other community organizations, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Nathaniel Boone on being named a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Nathaniel Boone in Manchester.