

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF
RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS STATUES TO MERCHANT MARINE
SEAMEN OF WW II**

WHEREAS, Public Laws 95-202 and 105-368 bestowed veteran status on US Merchant Marine Seamen of WWII.

WHEREAS, two specific U.S. government actions by US government have caused some 10,000 merchant seamen to have been denied their due recognition:

(1) The USCG relieving Masters of tugs, towboats and seagoing barges of the responsibility submitting reports of seamen shipped and discharged and

(2) The National Maritime Administration ordered ship's logbooks to be destroyed because they were too costly to maintain had removed the two main criteria required by the government to issue official recognition to those seamen, and

WHEREAS, the average age of the remaining seamen is above 86 and the population of the US veteran is shrinking at an average of 850 per year causing time to be of the essence, and

WHEREAS, No costs are associated with this proposal as funds are already included in above public laws.

WHEREAS, this Chatham County Board of Commissioners therefore request that immediate action be taken to correct this inconceivable action.

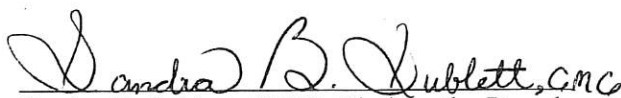
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners supports the attached proposal and so orders that this resolution and attached proposal be sent to Senator Bob Atwater, Speaker of the House Joe Hackney, Congressman Bob Etheridge and Congressman David Price and this matter be placed into action to ensure expedient passage.

Adopted this 1st day of June, 2009



George Lucier, Chairman

ATTEST:



Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners