

## Senate Resolution 504

By: Senators Heath of the 31st, Harbison of the 15th, Dugan of the 30th, Payne of the 54th, Hill of the 4th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Colonel Dewey Wayne Waddell for his service to the United States Air Force  
2 and the State of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Colonel Dewey Wayne Waddell served in the United States Air Force for more  
4 than 31 years, during which time he was assigned to the 354th Tactical Fighter Squadron of  
5 the 355th Tactical Fighter Wing at Takhli Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand; and

6 WHEREAS, while flying his 47th combat mission on July 5, 1967, he was forced to eject  
7 over North Vietnam and became a prisoner of war at the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" for 2,070  
8 days before being released during Operation Homecoming on March 4, 1973; and

9 WHEREAS, he continued his gallant service at the Air War College, Department of Defense  
10 Joint Service Committee, at the Pentagon and as director of the United States Air Force  
11 Emergency Plans for the Eastern United States at Dobbins Air Force Base, Georgia; and

12 WHEREAS, he served as president of NAM-POWs Corporation, the organization of former  
13 Vietnam prisoners of war; and

14 WHEREAS, owing to his gallantry and devotion to duty, he received the Silver Star for his  
15 action over North Vietnam on July 5, 1967, as a member of a flight of F-105s, which  
16 attacked and destroyed a key hostile railroad yard; and

17 WHEREAS, because of his deep inner strength and his devotion to duty, he was presented  
18 a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a second award of the Silver Star for gallantry and  
19 intrepidity in action while a prisoner of war; and

20 WHEREAS, despite the harsh treatment through his long years as a prisoner of war, he  
21 continued to perform his duties in a clearly exceptional manner, which reflected great credit

22 upon himself and the United States Air Force; for such exemplary service, he was presented  
23 with the Legion of Merit; and

24 WHEREAS, in lieu of a second award of the Legion of Merit, he was presented with a  
25 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster for exceptional meritorious conduct in the performance of  
26 outstanding services to the government of the United States as director, Disaster  
27 Preparedness and National Security Emergency Preparedness, 2400th Reserve Readiness  
28 Mobility Squadron, Fourteenth Air Force, Dobbins Air Force Base, Georgia; and

29 WHEREAS, for his extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight as an F-105  
30 pilot over North Vietnam on June 19, 1967, he was presented the Distinguished Flying Cross;  
31 and

32 WHEREAS, for his courageous actions and humanitarian regard for his fellowman while a  
33 prisoner of war, he was presented the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V"; and

34 WHEREAS, in lieu of a second award of the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V," he was  
35 presented a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster for his heroic achievement as a prisoner of war while  
36 engaged in operation against opposing armed forces in North Vietnam from May, 1968, to  
37 July, 1969; and

38 WHEREAS, he was presented a Prisoner of War Medal for his 2,070 days in captivity in an  
39 atmosphere of enemy harassment and brutal treatment as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam;  
40 and

41 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper to express gratitude to Colonel Dewey Wayne  
42 Waddell for his extraordinary service to this nation.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
44 commend the courage and selfless dedication exhibited by Colonel Dewey Wayne Waddell.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
46 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Colonel Dewey  
47 Wayne Waddell.