

April 12, 2025

To the House Committee on Special Legislation

RE: House Bill No. 5887

ENTITLED, An Act Relating to Holidays and Days of Special Observance-Holidays

'Changes the name of holiday on the second Monday of August from Victory Day to Peace and Remembrance Day'

Dear House Committee:

My name is Rodney M. Leighton, retired United States Navy Veteran 1972-2002 and life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

I strongly oppose any House Bill that would change this holiday from Victory Day to Peace and Remembrance Day. I will describe my objections with the following. First ,when you mention the word Peace in regards to the name change this makes me want to refer to the fact that the Citizens of Japan in 1940-41 had their chance to reach a peaceful agreement with the United States but instead allowed their leaders to , and this is one of the oldest stories in time, to exercise their Arrogance and Misuse of Power and attack us and plunge us into one of the bloodiest wars in history! Second, this state has already changed the name from VJ (Victory over Japan) to Victory Day and I can't help but think that the next change would be from Remembrance to just plain FORGET Day. I have observed that there are some citizens of this country that would like to erase our nation's history, the very history that regardless of the Good, Bad, or the Ugly of it defines us as a people to the World that we will NEVER lay down and relinquish our Freedom to anyone. Please show respect for not just the men and women of our armed forces that lost their lives or became wounded forever but also all the citizens of this country that supported them. If you consider leaving the name as Victory Day, this generation and future generations would at lease have a chance to Google it and make up their own minds in interpretation of this day in history.

Very respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rodney M. Leighton". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a large, stylized 'L' at the end.

Rodney M. Leighton

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