

## **House Committee on Special Legislation**

Supporting Bill H 7326, introduced January 26, 2024  
To Members of the House Committee on Special Legislation

Again, I write to support replacing “Victory Day,” a Rhode Island holiday celebrated the second Monday in August, with the title “Peace and Remembrance Day.”

My father, a Westerly boy, was drafted in the U.S. Army in 1943 after working in a defense related factory. His military records were destroyed in a fire, so I am unable to ascertain exactly where he was in August 1945. After the surrender of Japan my father a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, oversaw the arrest of Japanese soldiers in Korea. He later fought in the Korean War after he joined the reserves.

We knew little about his service. He told us that he was given gifts in Korea, a samurai sword and a kimono that were never taken out of our attic. I assume, however, that he would have been part of an invasion force had not the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki hastened the end of the war.

As summer residents of Rhode Island, we never felt a need to celebrate V-J Day (Victory over Japan) as it was called. My father abhorred excess militarism and would not have been a party to any celebration on that day.

It would most certainly please him to know that naming the holiday for the cause of peace and remembrance was passed into law.

In peace,

Anne Peirce Landis  
Former History teacher, Moses Brown School