



NEW JERSEY SENATE

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COMMITTEES
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June 14, 2019

Robert Turkavage, Chairman
Marco Polo Smigliani, Vice-Chairman
Friends of Bernie Friedenberg
219 North Roosevelt Boulevard
Brigantine, New Jersey 08203

Dear Messrs. Turkavage and Smigliani:

Thank you for calling my legislative office regarding the efforts of your organization, Friends of Bernie Friedenberg, to have a bronze statue created in order to remember and honor the sacrifices of Staff Sergeant Bernard I. Friedenberg, and all other Americans who served their country in World War II.

I enthusiastically endorse and support the creation of a statue to honor Friedenberg and all other World War II veterans. Atlantic City is an appropriate location for the placement of this statue given Friedenberg's AC roots, the vital role the city played during World War II, and its current reemergence as a preeminent tourist destination.

As I understand, the statue will be a nine-foot likeness of Friedenberg in a hunched position cradling a wounded soldier. The statue will be financed entirely with private funds, and will be erected at Friedenberg's childhood home in Atlantic City.

Staff Sergeant Friedenberg's patriotism, courage, and dedication to duty exemplified those qualities which were commonplace in our US Military during this critical time in our Nation's history. Friedenberg volunteered for duty on December 8, 1941, despite having a physical impediment which easily could have precluded his service in the military. In many situations, including his service on Omaha Beach on D-Day June 6, 1944, Friedenberg repeatedly placed himself in harms way in order to retrieve, and attend to the wounds of his fallen comrades. In carrying out his duties as a Medical Detachment medic in the 1st Infantry Division, Friedenberg undoubtedly saved the lives of many soldiers during his service in Algeria, Sicily, France, and Germany. For his actions, Friedenberg was the recipient of two Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars, and two Purple Hearts.

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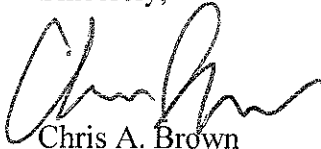
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Staff Sergeant Friedenber's service during World War II is a testament to his love for his country and for his fellow soldiers, without regard to his own personal safety. I am aware that in the years preceding his death, Friedenber also worked tirelessly to inform and educate younger generations on World War II. To his audiences, Friedenber attempted to drive home the lesson that the precious gift of freedom is not free; it was "bought and paid for with the blood and lives of many brave men".

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any assistance my office may be able to provide in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris A. Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "B".

Chris A. Brown
State Senator, District 2