



HR0526

LRB101 14460 MST 63351 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, American Legion Department of Illinois Dorie
3 Miller Post 915 is an organization of wartime veterans who have
4 dedicated themselves to the service of their community, State,
5 and nation and to honor U.S. Navy Seaman Doris "Dorie" Miller;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Dorie Miller Day was celebrated at the Jesse Brown
8 VA Medical Center on June 12, 2019 to recognize his valiant
9 devotion to duty on December 7, 1941; and

10 WHEREAS, Dorie Miller was a U.S. Navy Messman aboard the
11 USS West Virginia when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor; he
12 pulled a wounded officer and several of his fellow shipmates to
13 safety, and, without any formal training in naval gunnery, he
14 then manned an anti-aircraft machine gun and shot down four
15 enemy planes, while damaging several others; for this action
16 and his heroic efforts, he was awarded the Navy Cross by
17 Admiral Chester Nimitz; and

18 WHEREAS, Dorie Miller was one of the first heroes of World
19 War II, and his heroism, in part, helped the movement to
20 desegregate the Armed Forces by proving that African Americans
21 were suitable for combat duty; and

1 WHEREAS, Dorie Miller, now known all over the country for
2 his heroic actions aboard the USS West Virginia during the
3 attack on Pearl Harbor, accepted a request to join the
4 marketing efforts to raise war bonds; and

5 WHEREAS, After helping to raise financial support for the
6 war, Dorie Miller requested to be transferred back to active
7 battle; he was assigned to the USS Liscome Bay, where he
8 eventually perished after it was hit by a Japanese torpedo;
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
11 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we declare October 12, 2019 as Doris "Dorie" Miller Day in the
13 State of Illinois; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of Dorie Miller as a symbol of our
16 respect and esteem.