



HJ0064

LRB102 25175 MST 34438 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Women have proudly served their country  
3 throughout the history of the United States, whether in the  
4 disguise of a male soldier during the American Revolution and  
5 Civil War, as a nurse in World War I, as a combat helicopter  
6 pilot in Afghanistan or in another of many additional roles  
7 throughout the years; and

8 WHEREAS, Women have formally been part of the United  
9 States Armed Forces since the inception of the Army Nurse  
10 Corps in 1901 but have informally served since the inception  
11 of our nation's military; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1917, the United States Navy announced it  
13 would open enlistment to women, and approximately 12,000 women  
14 officially joined the Navy to serve in a variety of positions,  
15 including as interpreters, couriers, and translators as well  
16 as positions using drafting skills; and

17 WHEREAS, At the conclusion of World War II in 1945, there  
18 were 12 million enlisted who were remaining to serve in the  
19 United States military, of which approximately 280,000 were  
20 women; and

21 WHEREAS, With the passage of the Women's Armed Services

1 Integration Act of 1948, women became a permanent part of the  
2 United States military but were restricted to two percent of  
3 the military population; the restriction was finally lifted in  
4 1967 with an amendment to the Women's Armed Services  
5 Integration Act, which opened senior officer ranks to women;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, On June 12, 1948, President Harry S. Truman  
8 signed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act into law,  
9 allowing women to serve as regular members of the United  
10 States military; and

11 WHEREAS, In the late 1970s and early 1980s, several laws  
12 were passed that recognized the many contributions made by  
13 women during World War II and that formally granted veteran  
14 status to women for their time in service; this allowed women  
15 to utilize programs, opportunities, and benefits from the  
16 federal and state governments, the Department of Veterans  
17 Affairs, and veteran service organizations; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
19 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
20 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we declare June 12, 2022 as  
21 "Women's Veterans Day" in the State of Illinois to commemorate  
22 the day women were officially added as regular members of the  
23 United States military, to recognize the critical role of

1 women in the military forces, and to commemorate the  
2 sacrifices and valor displayed by Illinois women veterans; and  
3 be it further

4       RESOLVED, That we urge Women's Veterans Day be observed  
5 with appropriate programs, services, and activities.