



HR0283

LRB103 32374 MST 61788 r

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HOUSE 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 THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
20 we declare June 12, 2023 as "Women's Veterans Day" in the State
21 of Illinois to commemorate the day women were officially added
22 as regular members of the United States military, to recognize
23 the critical role of women in the military forces, and to

1 commemorate the sacrifices and valor displayed by Illinois
2 women veterans; and be it further

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