

1 HJR602  
2 120026-1  
3 By Representative Hall  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 11-MAR-10

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8 HONORING WOMEN IN THE MILITARY DURING WOMEN'S  
9 HISTORY MONTH.  
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11 WHEREAS, women have served honorably and with  
12 courage in all of America's wars and conflicts since the  
13 American Revolution; and

14 WHEREAS, the United States military has evolved from  
15 a predominantly male force to a force of more than 14 percent  
16 women who are currently serving on active duty, and nearly 17  
17 percent serving in the Reserves and National Guard; and

18 WHEREAS, the population of women veterans is  
19 increasing exponentially from 1.1 million in 1980 to a  
20 projection of nearly 2 million by 2020, comprising more than  
21 10 percent of the veteran population; and

22 WHEREAS, the projected population of male veterans  
23 is expected to continue to decline; and

24 WHEREAS, given that women in unprecedented numbers  
25 are serving in the military and participating in Operation  
26 Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, the United  
27 States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is working to

1 provide consistent, comprehensive, and quality health care and  
2 benefits to women veterans of all eras; and

3 WHEREAS, the number of female veterans has increased  
4 during the last decade because there are increasing numbers of  
5 women who are entering and leaving the military and because  
6 women are living longer than men and have a younger age  
7 distribution compared to male veterans; and

8 WHEREAS, even though VA has been at the forefront of  
9 health care and lifestyle solutions affecting an aging male  
10 population, there is now a growing need to improve health care  
11 services for women veterans, ensure that clinicians are  
12 properly trained to provide primary care and gender-specific  
13 care to women of all ages, and identify innovative courses of  
14 treatment and solutions to obstacles that are unique to women  
15 veterans; and

16 WHEREAS, with a rapidly increasing number of women  
17 serving in the military and returning from deployments as  
18 seasoned veterans and often with exposure to combat, VA  
19 facilities and veterans service organizations are working to  
20 ensure that the post-deployment mental and physical health  
21 needs unique to women are also met; and

22 WHEREAS, even though the roles of women in the  
23 military have changed over time and will continue to change,  
24 women deserve to be acknowledged for their military service  
25 and treated with equal respect; now therefore,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
27 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we encourage the Alabama

1 Veterans Administration to work in conjunction with the  
2 National Foundation for Women Legislators and the Center for  
3 Women Veterans at the United States Department of Veterans  
4 Affairs, to reach out to all women veterans in Alabama to  
5 identify unique issues impacting women veterans and consider  
6 policy solutions that will improve the quality of life for all  
7 our women veterans.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That by copy of this  
9 resolution for appropriate display, the State of Alabama  
10 honors all women in this state who have heroically answered  
11 their call to duty.