

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

ENROLLED. House Joint Resolution.

HONORING WOMEN IN THE MILITARY DURING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH.

WHEREAS, women have served honorably and with courage in all of America's wars and conflicts since the American Revolution; and

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

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

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

WHEREAS, given that women in unprecedented numbers are serving in the military and participating in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is working to provide consistent, comprehensive, and quality health care and benefits to women veterans of all eras; and

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

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

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

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

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
25 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.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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House of Representatives

8 I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
9 and was adopted by the House 23-MAR-10.

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Greg Pappas
Clerk

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Senate

23-MAR-10

Adopted

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