

2024 -- H 8360

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING JUNE 12, 2024, TO BE "WOMEN VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY" IN
THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Vella-Wilkinson, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Shanley,
Batista, Noret, Finkelman, Dawson, O'Brien, and Azzinaro

Date Introduced: June 12, 2024

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Since the formation of the United States Army Nurse Corps in 1901, women
2 have served our nation in the military in an official capacity, and informally, they have served
3 since the inception of our nation's military during the American Revolution; and

4 WHEREAS, Women Veterans Appreciation Day is the anniversary of the day the
5 Women's Armed Services Integration Act was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman on
6 June 12, 1948. Prior to then, only women nurses could serve in the regular and reserve forces
7 during peacetime; and

8 WHEREAS, Historically, women have made wide-ranging contributions to our country's
9 military and to securing and preserving freedom and liberty for the people of the United States
10 and our allies; and

11 WHEREAS, During the American Revolution and the Civil War, women disguised
12 themselves as men in order to fight, and in World War I, approximately 35,000 women served as
13 nurses and support staff. During World War II, 140,000 women served in the Women's Army
14 Corps (WACs) performing critical jobs, such as military intelligence, cryptography and parachute
15 rigging, and in Afghanistan, women were combat helicopter pilots, hunted the Taliban, and held a
16 variety of combat and supervisory roles; and

17 WHEREAS, Currently, there are approximately two million women Veterans in the
18 United States, Puerto Rico, and Territories/Foreign who are pushing boundaries and taking on
19 groundbreaking roles; and

1 WHEREAS, We Rhode Islanders, as well as all Americans, believe it to be essential that
2 all the women who wear the uniform of the United States Armed Services know that they are
3 appreciated and never far from our thoughts and prayers; now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
5 proclaims June 12, 2024, to be "Women Veterans Appreciation Day" in gratitude and recognition
6 for the critical role and dauntless service of women in the United States Armed Forces, and to
7 honor their sacrifices while valiantly serving our nation; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
9 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the State of Rhode Island Office of Veterans
10 Services, and the Rhode Island Veterans Home.

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