
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 207 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY V. BROWN, P. DALEY, McGEEHAN, VEREB, SNYDER,
COHEN, HENNESSEY, CALTAGIRONE, MOLCHANY, BROWNLEE, MACKENZIE,
SAINATO, FREEMAN, O'BRIEN, NEUMAN, O'NEILL, THOMAS,
SCHLOSSBERG, BOBACK, RAPP, DONATUCCI, PICKETT, YOUNGBLOOD,
WHEATLEY, MICOZZIE, HAHN, KIM, HARHAI, MILLARD, PAYNE,
READSHAW, PAINTER, MAJOR, PARKER, MUSTIO, GRELL, CLAY,
GIBBONS, EVERETT, SWANGER, DIGIROLAMO, BARRAR, MARSICO,
CLYMER, HESS, ROSS, KAVULICH AND SCHLEGEL CULVER,
APRIL 3, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, APRIL 3, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring women veterans who honorably and courageously served
2 our country as members of the armed forces and encouraging
3 women veterans to discuss their specific needs and concerns
4 with State agency officials so that the General Assembly and
5 agency officials may work together to consider policy
6 solutions that will improve the quality of life of women
7 veterans in this Commonwealth.

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

11 WHEREAS, The United States military has evolved from a
12 predominantly male force to a force increasingly consisting of
13 women; and

14 WHEREAS, Women make up more than 14% of those serving on
15 active duty and nearly 17% of those serving in the reserves or
16 National Guard; and

1 WHEREAS, The population of women veterans is increasing
2 exponentially from 1.1 million in 1980 to a projected 2 million
3 by 2020 and will comprise more than 10% of the veteran
4 population as a whole; and

5 WHEREAS, The number of women veterans has increased over the
6 last decade due to an increasing number and proportion of women
7 who are entering and leaving the military and because women
8 veterans are living longer and have a younger age distribution
9 than male veterans; and

10 WHEREAS, Given that an unprecedented number of women are
11 serving in the military and participating in Operation Enduring
12 Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, the United States
13 Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is working to provide
14 consistent, comprehensive and quality health care and benefits
15 to women veterans of all eras; and

16 WHEREAS, Even though the VA has been at the forefront of
17 health care and lifestyle solutions for an aging male veteran
18 population, there is now a growing need to improve health care
19 services for women veterans, to ensure that clinicians are
20 properly trained to provide primary care and gender-specific
21 care to women of all ages and to identify innovative courses of
22 treatment and solutions to obstacles that are unique to women
23 veterans; and

24 WHEREAS, With a rapidly increasing number of women serving in
25 the military and returning from deployments as seasoned veterans
26 and with some women having combat exposure, VA facilities and
27 veterans service organizations are working to ensure that the
28 postdeployment mental and physical health needs unique to women
29 veterans are also met; and

30 WHEREAS, As the roles of women in the military have changed

1 over time and continue to evolve, women veterans deserve to be
2 acknowledged for their military service and treated with equal
3 respect as male veterans; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor women
5 veterans who honorably and courageously served our country as
6 members of the armed forces; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage women
8 veterans to discuss their specific needs and concerns with State
9 agency officials so that the General Assembly and agency
10 officials may work together to consider policy solutions that
11 will improve the quality of life of women veterans in this
12 Commonwealth.