A RESOLUTION

Honoring the 243rd birthday of the United State Marine Corps on
November 10, 2018.

WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps was founded as the
Continental Marines by a resolution passed by the Second
Continental Congress on November 10, 1775, which raised two
battalions of Marines; and

WHEREAS, The birth of the Marine Corps was to augment naval
forces in the Revolutionary War; and

WHEREAS, The Tun Tavern on Water Street in Philadelphia, the
original recruiting headquarters, is considered the Marine
Corps' birthplace; and

WHEREAS, In 1798, President John Adams signed the law
establishing the Marine Corps as a permanent military force
under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Navy; and

WHEREAS, The Marine Corps has fought with great courage on
six continents and in every conflict in American history,
including the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, World War I,
World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam Conflict; and

WHEREAS, The Marine Corps has also served in support of
Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi
Freedom; and

WHEREAS, The Marine Corps has fought valiantly in defense of
the United States and its citizens and principles; and

WHEREAS, There are approximately 194,000 active duty and more
than 40,000 reserve members of the Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, Marines recognize the Marine Corps as a tradition
built on time-honored values and principles; and

WHEREAS, Marines truly embody the motto of the Marine Corps,
Semper Fidelis, which translates from Latin as "always faithful"
and signifies the defense of freedom and democracy worldwide;

and

WHEREAS, Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima, the famous photograph
by Joe Rosenthal, will always symbolize the triumph and glory of
the Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, The Marine Air-Ground Task Force integrates a ground
combat element, an aviation combat element and a logistics
combat element under a common command element; and

WHEREAS, Known for amphibious and land capabilities, the
Marine Air-Ground Task Force operates independently or as part
of a larger coalition; and

WHEREAS, During World War I, Marines fought the famed Battle
of Belleau Wood, establishing a reputation for toughness and
fierceness; and

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WHEREAS, The Marine Corps played a central role in the liberation of the Pacific Islands during World War II; and
WHEREAS, The momentum of the Korean War shifted when the Marine Corps, in conjunction with the Navy, launched a massive amphibious attack at Inchon, surprising the North Koreans by putting thousands of United States troops behind enemy lines; and
WHEREAS, The Marine Corps participated in major offensives of the Vietnam Conflict, engaging in guerrilla warfare, implementing unconventional techniques for counterinsurgency and working as military advisors to the Republic of Vietnam Marine Corps; and
WHEREAS, From 1990 to 1991, Marines participated in Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm, leading the liberation of Kuwait and the defeat of Iraqi forces; and
WHEREAS, The Marine Corps continues to make significant contributions to the war on terrorism; and
WHEREAS, The Marine Corps supports peacekeeping missions and humanitarian operations in numerous countries, including Liberia, Bangladesh, the Philippines and Somalia; and
WHEREAS, Marine Corps Order No. 47, Series 1921, written by Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune, Major General Commandant of the Marine Corps, established the mandatory celebration of the Marine Corps' birthday; and
WHEREAS, Balls and banquets have been added to the celebration starting with the first formal dance in 1923 at Fort Mifflin Marine Barracks; therefore be it
RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the 243rd birthday of the United States Marine Corps on November 10, 2018.