
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 614 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY MALONEY, BIZZARRO, BURNS, COX, GREINER, HILL-
EVANS, HOHENSTEIN, KORTZ, D. MILLER, MOUL, READSHAW, RYAN,
SCHMITT, SONNEY, STAATS, TOEPEL, VITALI, MACKENZIE AND
MILLARD, NOVEMBER 15, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, NOVEMBER 15, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Boyertown American
2 Legion Post 471, and recognizing and honoring the legacy of
3 General Carl Spaatz and the American Legion as a staunch
4 advocate for veterans and their families.

5 WHEREAS, The American Legion came to life in Paris, France,
6 beginning on March 15, 1919, when war-weary members of the
7 American Expeditionary Forces who had fought in World War I
8 gathered for what became known as the Paris Caucus; and

9 WHEREAS, The Boyertown American Legion Post 471 in Boyertown,
10 Pennsylvania, held its inaugural meeting just months later on
11 November 20, 1919; and

12 WHEREAS, General Carl Spaatz, a chartered member of Post 471
13 and the father of the modern air force who served as the first
14 chief of staff of the United States Air Force, is a source of
15 immense pride of Post 471 members; and

16 WHEREAS, As members of Post 471 and their American Legion
17 counterparts continued to meet in Boyertown and across the

1 nation, they thought about how to support their wounded
2 comrades, honor the fallen, assist surviving spouses and
3 orphans, protect the democracy they pledged their lives to
4 defend and chart a new course for future generations of
5 Americans; and

6 WHEREAS, Legionnaires saw their vision become a reality when,
7 on September 16, 1919, the American Legion was chartered by
8 Congress as a patriotic veterans organization focusing on
9 service to veterans, servicemembers and communities; and

10 WHEREAS, The American Legion was founded on four pillars
11 which include care for veterans, a strong national defense,
12 Americanism and children and youths; and

13 WHEREAS, The American Legion has played a leading role in
14 initiatives and breakthroughs that have affected the lives of
15 Americans in every community from creating the United States
16 Flag Code, helping to start the Veterans Administration,
17 drafting and helping to pass the GI Bill and helping veterans
18 receive benefits for health care conditions based on their
19 honorable service; and

20 WHEREAS, The American Legion has nearly 3,000 accredited
21 service officers worldwide, who assist veterans with their
22 benefits claims and other concerns; and

23 WHEREAS, The national membership stands at more than 2
24 million, with more than 200,000 legionnaires from Pennsylvania;
25 therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the
27 100th anniversary of the Boyertown American Legion Post 471, and
28 recognize and honor the legacy of General Carl Spaatz and the
29 American Legion as a staunch advocate for veterans and their
30 families; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize and
2 honor the historical significance and valorous service and
3 sacrifice of the United States Armed Forces; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commend the
5 American Legion for its service to veterans for the past 100
6 years as well as the continuous service as it begins its second
7 century.