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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 210 Session of  
2022

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INTRODUCED BY RABB, GILLEN, POLINCHOCK, GUENST, WEBSTER,  
SOLOMON, SCHLOSSBERG, BOBACK, SANCHEZ, DELLOSO, HENNESSEY,  
T. DAVIS, SAMUELSON, LONGIETTI, COOK, MADDEN, HILL-EVANS,  
WARREN, MENTZER AND CIRESI, MAY 31, 2022

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, MAY 31, 2022

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Designating Pennsylvania as a Hidden Heroes state in support of  
2 military and veteran caregivers.

3 WHEREAS, Since World War II, the series of wars and conflicts  
4 in which our nation has been engaged has resulted in  
5 approximately 5.5 million military and veteran caregivers who  
6 are parents, spouses, siblings and friends of those wounded, ill  
7 or injured as a result of their service to our nation, as  
8 documented by a 2014 study by the RAND Corporation and the  
9 Elizabeth Dole Foundation; and

10 WHEREAS, The daily tasks of military and veteran caregivers  
11 may include bathing, feeding, administering medications and  
12 dressing and caring for the grievous injuries of wounded  
13 warriors, providing emotional support, caring for the family and  
14 the home and working outside the home to earn essential income;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The nation provides multifaceted support to our

1 wounded, ill and injured veterans and service members through  
2 public, private and philanthropic resources, but their  
3 caregivers receive little support or acknowledgment; and

4 WHEREAS, Most military and veteran caregivers consider the  
5 challenging work they do as simply carrying out their civic and  
6 patriotic duty, without realizing they are caregivers, and do  
7 not identify themselves as such; and

8 WHEREAS, An alarming number of military and veteran  
9 caregivers are suffering numerous debilitating mental, physical  
10 and emotional effects as a result of their caregiving duties;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth desires to recognize and support  
13 those who are serving in these vital roles in our communities;  
14 therefore be it

15 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly  
16 designate Pennsylvania as a Hidden Heroes state in support of  
17 military and veteran caregivers; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth seek to identify military and  
19 veteran caregivers residing in our communities and determine the  
20 unique challenges that they face; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth work to ensure that our  
22 government, nonprofit and other organizations are aware of the  
23 unique challenges of military and veteran caregivers; and be it  
24 further

25 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly encourage nonprofit and  
26 other organizations to create supportive environments and  
27 opportunities for assistance for military and veteran  
28 caregivers; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth plan an annual observance or  
30 resource fair in partnership with the Elizabeth Dole

1 Foundation's national Hidden Heroes campaign to recognize  
2 communities' military and veteran caregivers and connect them  
3 with local resources; and be it further

4       RESOLVED, That the General Assembly encourage the residents  
5 of this Commonwealth to extend their support for veterans and  
6 service members to their caregivers as well; and be it further

7       RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth designate a point of contact  
8 for our communities, from the public or private sector, for  
9 citizens and organizations that want to offer support and for  
10 caregivers who need that support; and be it further

11       RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth use the Elizabeth Dole  
12 Foundation's Military Caregiver Experience Map to understand the  
13 stages of a military caregiver's journey and use it as a tool to  
14 encourage community understanding and support.