

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY SENATOR BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To commend and recognize the contributions, unique skillsets, and sacrifices of Louisiana's women veterans.

WHEREAS, women began their service in the United States military, out of necessity, during the Revolutionary War, in which they were laundresses, nurses, and cooks; some women disguised themselves as men and bravely fought in combat; after nearly two centuries of hard work and dedication to the United States Military, congress passed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act; and

WHEREAS, with the passage of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, women were granted permanent status in the military and were entitled to military benefits; during the Gulf War, women were called upon to perform a wider variety of duties than ever before and have performed admirably in nearly every role, from pilots to intelligence to commanding officers; and

WHEREAS, the number of courageous women volunteering to serve our country has continually increased according to the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, as of 2014, women veterans represent approximately ten percent of the United States veteran population, including 31,905 of these women in the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the population of women veterans is expected to increase to approximately thirteen percent nationally and to nearly fifteen percent in the state of Louisiana in the next fifteen years; these mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends risk their lives to serve both domestically and abroad to protect the rights and freedoms of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, women are an integral part of the military because of their growing numbers and leadership positions; their unique skillsets make them a vital facet of our armed forces; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana women veterans are true heroes who have served their country with pride and honor, and it is appropriate to recognize the sacrifices and contributions of these great women.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Louisiana's women veterans for their distinguished service in the United States Armed Forces; does hereby recognize their vital role in protecting the rights and freedoms of Americans; and does hereby express enduring appreciation for the dedication, contributions, and sacrifices to our country and the great pride women veterans bring to the state of Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE