

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 101

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 12, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN ARMATO

District 2 (Atlantic)

Assemblyman VINCENT MAZZEO

District 2 (Atlantic)

Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen A.M.Bucco, Space, Wirths, Caputo, Holley, Chiaravalloti,

Assemblywoman Murphy, Assemblymen Johnson, Houghtaling and

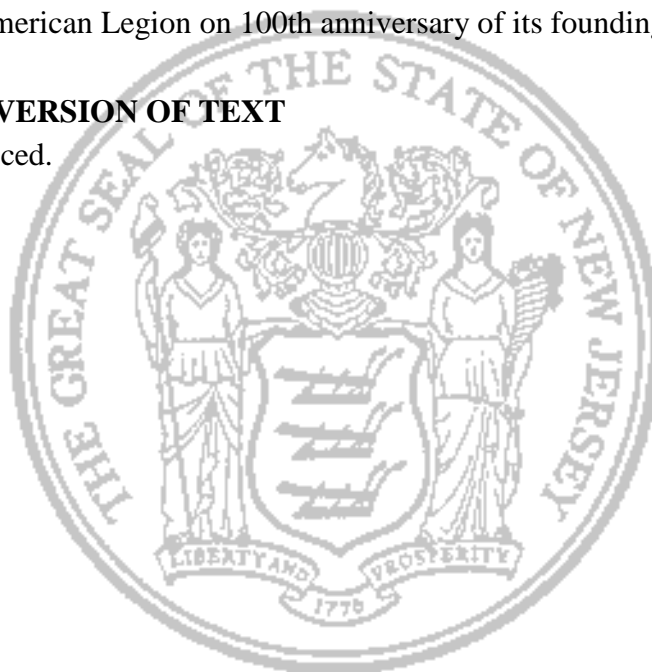
Assemblywoman DiMaso

SYNOPSIS

Honors American Legion on 100th anniversary of its founding.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/11/2019)

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** honoring the American Legion on the 100th
2 anniversary of its founding.
3
4 **WHEREAS**, The American Legion is a veterans organization formed in
5 Paris in March of 1919 by three officers of the American
6 Expeditionary Forces who fought in World War I, and it was
7 chartered by the United States Congress in September of 1919; and
8 **WHEREAS**, The focus of the American Legion is on securing services
9 and benefits for veterans, the families of service members, and the
10 communities where veterans live and work; and
11 **WHEREAS**, After World War II, the membership of the American
12 Legion rose to over three million members, with the organization's
13 departments in each of the 50 states, as well as the District of
14 Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and the Philippines; and
15 **WHEREAS**, Soon after its founding and into the present, the American
16 Legion has sought compensation and medical assistance for soldiers
17 who suffered injury or disability during wartime; and
18 **WHEREAS**, Starting in the later 1930s the American Legion was
19 instrumental in prodding the federal government to create the
20 United States Veterans' Bureau, which later became the Veterans
21 Administration, and in 1989 became the Department of Veterans
22 Affairs to give veterans representation at the highest levels of
23 government; and
24 **WHEREAS**, In 1944, the American Legion was the moving force
25 behind the drafting and enactment of the Servicemen's
26 Readjustment Act, which became known popularly as the GI Bill;
27 and
28 **WHEREAS**, The legislation provided for low-cost mortgages, low-
29 interest loans to start a business, cash payments to attend high
30 school, college, or vocational/technical school, as well as one year
31 of unemployment compensation; and
32 **WHEREAS**, It is estimated that millions of veterans have taken
33 advantage of these benefits to better themselves and their country,
34 and that for every \$1 spent on the program, \$7 was returned to the
35 United States' economy; and
36 **WHEREAS**, Since World War II, the American Legion has been in the
37 forefront of supporting additional veterans benefits, contributing
38 funds in 1950 to support mental health treatment, which led to the
39 launching of the National Association of Mental Health, and in the
40 1980s it sponsored and funded studies assessing the effects of
41 exposure to Agent Orange on Vietnam Veterans; and
42 **WHEREAS**, Also since World War II, the American Legion has been
43 involved in creating and supporting youth organizations and
44 projects designed to help America's children to become involved
45 with sports, such as baseball, and with civics education, and it has
46 provided thousands of dollars in college scholarships to deserving
47 high school students; and

AJR101 ARMATO, MAZZEO

3

1 **WHEREAS**, It is fitting and proper for the State and the Legislature to
2 commemorate the accomplishments of the American Legion and
3 honor it on the 100th anniversary of its founding, for in doing so,
4 this State is honoring all veterans who live in New Jersey; now,
5 therefore,

6
7 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
8 *State of New Jersey:*

9
10 1. The Governor and the Legislature honor the American Legion
11 on the 100th anniversary of its founding.

12
13 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
14 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the
15 Secretary of the Senate to the American Legion's Commander of
16 the Department of New Jersey.

17
18 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

22

23 The purpose of this Joint Resolution is to commemorate the
24 accomplishments of the American Legion and honor it on the 100th
25 anniversary of its founding.