

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 19

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN DIMAIO

District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)

Assemblyman ERIK PETERSON

District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)

Assemblyman HAROLD "HAL" J. WIRTHS

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Space and DeAngelo

SYNOPSIS

Designates March of each year as “Women Veterans Month” in New Jersey.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating March of each year as “Women
2 Veterans Month” in New Jersey
3
4 **WHEREAS**, Throughout our State and Nation’s histories women have
5 served in and alongside the United States Armed Forces to secure
6 and preserve freedom and liberty for all Americans and our allies;
7 and
8 **WHEREAS**, The long tradition of women serving honorably and with
9 courage in our country’s military dates back to the American
10 Revolution when they acted as nurses, cooks, and saboteurs; and
11 **WHEREAS**, The important contributions of women continued in the
12 centuries that followed and included assignments as military nurses
13 in fixed-facility hospitals in World Wars I and II, as medical staff in
14 field combat hospitals during the Korean War and Vietnam
15 Conflict, and as truck drivers and helicopter pilots in Iraq and
16 Afghanistan; and
17 **WHEREAS**, In December 2015, the United States Department of
18 Defense announced women were permitted to serve in combat roles
19 such as infantry, artillery, and armor, which reversed a rule
20 restricting women from combat roles; and
21 **WHEREAS**, Women veterans have demonstrated great skill, sacrifice,
22 and commitment to defending the principles upon which our Nation
23 was founded and continues to uphold; and
24 **WHEREAS**, Today, women constitute approximately 15 percent of the
25 military personnel on active duty and 17 percent of active-duty
26 officers in the military; and
27 **WHEREAS**, Women comprise nearly 19 percent of all active-duty
28 personnel in the Air Force, 18 percent of the Navy, 14 percent of
29 the Army, and eight percent of all Marines; and
30 **WHEREAS**, In New Jersey, women constitute roughly 18 percent of the
31 membership of the New Jersey Army National Guard and make up
32 23 percent of the New Jersey Air National Guard; and
33 **WHEREAS**, The number of women veterans continues to grow in the
34 United States and is expected to reach 20 percent of the military
35 forces by 2020 increasing exponentially from 1.1 million in 1980 to
36 a projected two million by 2020; and
37 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey is home to 25,678 women veterans who have
38 proudly and valiantly served our State and Nation, and who have
39 played an integral role in defending our homeland and preserving
40 freedom around the world; and
41 **WHEREAS**, Former New Jersey Governor, Chris Christie, proclaimed
42 March 2016 as “Women Veterans Month” during his tenure to pay
43 respect to women veterans for their dutiful service to the State and
44 Nation; and
45 **WHEREAS**, It is of the utmost importance for the residents of the
46 Garden State to express our gratitude for the patriotic service of our
47 women veterans who have risked their lives to defend our

1 constitution and the sacred principles of liberty and freedom it
2 represents; now, therefore,

3
4 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
5 *State of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. The month of March of each year is designated as “Women
8 Veterans Month” in honor and remembrance of all women veterans
9 who have served honorably and with courage on behalf of this State
10 and the United States of America since the Revolutionary War.

11
12 2. The Governor is respectfully requested to issue an annual
13 proclamation recognizing March as “Women Veterans Month” in
14 New Jersey and calling upon public officials and citizens of this
15 State to observe the month with appropriate activities and programs.

16
17 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

18
19
20 STATEMENT

21
22 Women have served honorably and with courage in all of
23 America’s wars and conflicts since the American Revolution. This
24 joint resolution designates March of each year as “Women Veterans
25 Month” in New Jersey in honor and remembrance of all women
26 veterans who have proudly and valiantly served this State and
27 Nation. Today, women constitute approximately 15 percent of the
28 military personnel on active duty and demonstrate great skill,
29 sacrifice, and commitment to defending the principles upon which
30 our Nation was founded and continues to uphold.

31 To pay respect to the State and Nation’s women veterans for
32 their dutiful service to the Nation, the Governor is respectfully
33 requested to issue an annual proclamation calling upon public
34 officials and the citizens of this State to observe March of each year
35 as “Women Veterans Month” in New Jersey.