

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R26-0765.01 Olivia Nesselroade x2670

HJR26-1004

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Duran and Caldwell,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Ball and Frizell,

House Committees

Senate Committees

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 26-1004

101 CONCERNING RECOGNITION OF THE MILITARY, VETERANS, POW/MIA,
102 AND GOLD STAR FAMILIES.

1 WHEREAS, Colorado has a proud and distinguished history of
2 dedicated military service by men and women whose courage, heroism,
3 and sacrifice preserve the liberties and democratic way of life set forth in
4 our state and federal constitutions; and

5 WHEREAS, Colorado benefits greatly from the presence and
6 military service of the more than 47,000 men and women in our state who
7 serve in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Marine
8 Corps, and Coast Guard; the branch Reserves; the Colorado National
9 Guard; and the Civil Air Patrol; and

10 WHEREAS, Colorado is home to a significant number of military
11 installations, including Fort Carson, the United States Air Force Academy,

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

1 Buckley Space Force Base, Peterson Space Force Base, Schriever Space
2 Force Base, and Cheyenne Mountain Space Force Station, that contribute
3 not only to the national security of our nation but to the economic health
4 of our state; and

5 WHEREAS, The service members of the Colorado National Guard
6 have served in defense of our nation and as the first military responders
7 in support of civil authorities during domestic emergencies and are
8 celebrating their 166th anniversary this year; and

9 WHEREAS, Disparate and diverse groups of Coloradans, such as
10 persons who are African American, Native American, Latino or Latina,
11 or Hispanic, in addition to men and women of all backgrounds, are bound
12 together in the Armed Services by their selfless dedication to the spirit of
13 our nation, the ideals of freedom and democracy, and the cause of
14 democracy and stability around the globe; and

15 WHEREAS, In addition to active members of the United States
16 Armed Services, Colorado is the proud home of more than 340,000
17 military veterans who have served their country long and well and who
18 bring great honor and distinction to the state. Colorado is home not only
19 to active duty service personnel and veterans but also to the countless
20 family members of these service members who display the same
21 dedication, courage, and sacrifice; and

22 WHEREAS, Colorado, along with the rest of our great nation, is
23 especially indebted to the American soldiers who have died in battle and
24 military conflicts and to their families, known as Gold Star Families, who
25 have endured these losses and the accompanying grief; and

26 WHEREAS, Gold Star Families were named for the practice of
27 families hanging service banners in the windows of their homes, with a
28 star for each family member serving in the Armed Forces: Deep blue stars
29 were displayed for each living member serving, and they were replaced
30 with gold stars if the loved one was killed in action serving our country
31 and protecting our freedom; and

32 WHEREAS, While national monuments and memorials serve as
33 strong visible reminders for the service members who risked their lives in
34 service to our nation, Gold Star Families are a living legacy of each fallen
35 soldier and can help us all remember and honor these heroes by name; and

1 WHEREAS, The acts of heroism and courage of fallen soldiers,
2 service members from Colorado declared missing in action, and prisoners
3 of war are forever remembered in the minds and hearts of their families,
4 and we should never forget the uncommon sacrifices made for us by these
5 service members while defending the principles of liberty and justice in
6 conflicts around the world; and

7 WHEREAS, In this time of conflict, it is particularly appropriate
8 to recognize the Coloradans in all branches and components of the Armed
9 Services who have served and are currently serving to protect the security
10 and peace of our nation and other nations; now, therefore,

11 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-fifth*
12 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

13 (1) That we, the members of the Seventy-fifth General Assembly,
14 hereby extend our heartfelt gratitude to our state's veterans, past and
15 present; to all members of the military currently serving in the Armed
16 Services; to the family members of active duty personnel and veterans;
17 and to our Gold Star Families and that we remember and honor prisoners
18 of war and those missing in action from previous conflicts;

19 (2) That we express our continued partnership with and support of
20 Fort Carson and maintain our strong commitment to supporting ongoing
21 military training at the Mountain Post; and

22 (3) That we encourage the citizens of Colorado to join in the
23 celebration of Colorado's military, veterans, POW/MIA, and Gold Star
24 Families in recognition and honor of the thousands of fellow citizens in
25 the military who protect and serve their communities, state, and country.

26 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
27 to President Donald J. Trump; Governor Jared Polis; Maj. Gen. Robert
28 Davis, Adjutant General of Colorado, Executive Director of the
29 Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; Carol Thomas, Commander
30 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Colorado; the American
31 Legion of Colorado; the Colorado Board of Veterans Affairs; the United
32 Veterans Coalition of Colorado; the commanders of Colorado's active
33 military bases; the Pikes Peak Chapter of American Gold Star Mothers,
34 Inc.; the Denver Chapter of Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.; the
35 Colorado chapters of the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.; the
36 Paralyzed Veterans of America Mountain States Chapter; the Broomfield

- 1 Veterans Museum; the Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum;
- 2 and each member of Colorado's Congressional delegation.