119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. _____

Recognizing the service and sacrifice of women veterans.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. TILLIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the service and sacrifice of women veterans.

Whereas, throughout every period of the history of the United States, women have proudly served the United States to secure and preserve freedom and liberty for—

(1) the people of the United States; and

(2) the allies of the United States;

Whereas women have formally been a part of the Armed Forces since the establishment of the Army Nurse Corps in 1901 but have informally served since the inception of the United States military;

Whereas 2026 marks the 78th anniversary of the signing of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948 (62 Stat. 356, chapter 449), legally allowing women to serve in all 4 branches of the military;

Whereas more than 3,000,000 women have served the United States honorably and with valor on land, on sea, in the air, and in space, including—

(1) as ''Molly Pitchers'' during the American Revolution, providing support to the Continental Army and taking their place on the artillery gun lines as soldiers fell;

(2) by passing as men to serve as soldiers during the Revolutionary War, the Early Republic, and the Civil War;

(3) as doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers, and Signal Corps telephone operator ''Hello Girls'' during World War I;

(4) during World War II—

(A) as members of the Women's Army Corps (commonly known as ''WACs'');

(B) as Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (commonly known as ''WAVES'');

(C) as members of the Coast Guard Women's Reserve (commonly known as ''SPARS'');

(D) as Women Airforce Service Pilots (commonly known as ''WASPs''); and

(E) as nurses;

(5) as permanent members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, serving as nurses, physicians, physical therapists, air traffic controllers, intelligence specialists, communications specialists, logisticians, and clerks during the Korean War and Vietnam War; and

(6) as fixed and rotary wing combat pilots, surface warfare sailors, submariners, artillerists, air defenders, engineers, military police, intelligence specialists, civil affairs specialists, logisticians, and, most recently, in all combat roles in the Persian Gulf, Iraq, and Afghanistan;

Whereas, as of 2024, women constitute approximately 18 percent of Armed Forces personnel on active duty, including—

(1) 21 percent of active duty personnel in the Air Force;

(2) 21 percent of active duty personnel in the Navy;

(3) 16 percent of active duty personnel in the Army;

(4) 10 percent of active duty personnel in the Marine Corps;

(5) 16 percent of active duty personnel in the Coast Guard; and

(6) 19 percent of active duty personnel in the Space Force;

Whereas, as of 2024, women constitute approximately 22 percent of personnel in the National Guard and Reserves;

Whereas women have been critical to responding to the unjustified invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, including as members of the National Guard and as active duty personnel in the Armed Forces who have been deployed to contribute to foreign assistance efforts;

Whereas 13 members of the Armed Forces, including 2 women, were killed during Operation Allies Refuge, in which more than 120,000 people were evacuated in the largest civilian airlift in the history of the United States;

Whereas, in 2026—

(1) the population of women veterans is approximately 2,124,000, which represents a significant increase from 1,100,000 women veterans in 1980; and

(2) women veterans constitute approximately 12 percent of the total veteran population;

Whereas women are the fastest growing group in the veteran population;

Whereas an estimated 1 in 3 women veterans enrolled in the healthcare system of the Department of Veterans Affairs report having experienced military sexual trauma during their military service;

Whereas the people of the United States are proud of and appreciate the service of all women veterans, who have demonstrated great skill, sacrifice, and commitment to defending the principles upon which the United States was founded and which the United States continues to uphold;

Whereas women veterans have unique stories and should be encouraged to share their recollections through the Veterans History Project, a part of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, which has worked since 2000 to collect and share the personal accounts of wartime veterans in the United States; and

Whereas, by recognizing the service and sacrifice of women veterans, the Senate can—

(1) highlight the growing presence of women in the Armed Forces and the National Guard;

(2) pay respect to women veterans for their patriotic military service; and

(3) commit to improving the benefits and support provided to women veterans and their families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes the service and sacrifices of women veterans who have served valiantly on behalf of the United States.