

**First Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

REVISED

LLS NO. R19-0886.01 Joel Moore x4497

HJR19-1008

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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House Committees

Senate Committees

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 19-1008

101 **CONCERNING RECOGNITION OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN VETERANS.**

1 WHEREAS, The military history of African Americans spans from
2 the arrival of the first enslaved Africans during the colonial history of the
3 United States to the present day; and

4 WHEREAS, African Americans have participated in every war
5 fought by or within the United States, including the Revolutionary War,
6 the War of 1812, the Mexican-American War, the Civil War, the
7 Spanish-American War, the Indian Wars, the World Wars, the Korean
8 War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, and the wars in Afghanistan and
9 Iraq; and

10 WHEREAS, Nearly 187,000 African-American soldiers served
11 during the Civil War, roughly 350,000 African-American soldiers served
12 during World War I, and another 2.5 million registered to serve during

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

SENATE
Final Reading
February 4, 2019

HOUSE
Final Reading
February 1, 2019

1 World War II, with many more African Americans serving in the years
2 since World War II; and

3 WHEREAS, On July 26, 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed
4 Executive Order 9981, integrating the military and mandating equality of
5 treatment and opportunity for African-American soldiers; and

6 WHEREAS, Desegregation of the military was not complete for
7 several years, and all-African-American units persisted well into the
8 Korean War; and

9 WHEREAS, The last all-African-American unit was not disbanded
10 until 1954; and

11 WHEREAS, Until the Korean War, African-American veterans
12 were precluded from direct access to benefits from the Veterans
13 Administration, which included VA housing loans, employment
14 assistance, unemployment benefits, and health care; and

15 WHEREAS, African Americans continue to serve in the United
16 States military, providing exemplary service, duty, integrity, dedication,
17 and commitment to our great nation; and

18 WHEREAS, Currently, 12% of the United States Armed Forces
19 are African American; of those, the majority are African-American
20 women; now, therefore,

21 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the*
22 *Seventy-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate*
23 *concurring herein:*

24 That we, the General Assembly, in recognition of the heroic efforts
25 and great sacrifice of African-American veterans, hereby encourage this
26 commemoration throughout the House and Senate.

27 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
28 to the Congressional Black Caucus; the National Black Caucus of State
29 Legislators; the Retired Enlisted Association; the Tuskegee Airmen; the
30 Colorado Black Women for Political Action; the National Association for
31 Black Veterans, Inc.; the State Veterans of Foreign Wars; the State
32 American Legion; the United Veterans Committee of Colorado; the State

- 1 Disabled American Veterans; and the Mountain States Chapter of the
- 2 Paralyzed Veterans of America.