

House Concurrent Resolution No. 18

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SPENCER.

1403H.01I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, the United States military has five branches that offer Junior Reserve
2 Officer Training Corps (JROTC): the Marine Corps, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard;
3 and
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5 **WHEREAS**, JROTC courses are offered at over three thousand high schools across the
6 United States; and
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8 **WHEREAS**, participation in the elective JROTC courses does not require students to
9 join the military; and
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11 **WHEREAS**, JROTC courses are not military-preparation courses but teach life skills
12 that are not instilled in many of today's youth: taking orders, punctuality, responsibility, personal
13 hygiene, physical fitness, and respect; and
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15 **WHEREAS**, JROTC courses provide leadership skills and opportunity for
16 underprivileged youth across the state, especially in inner cities; and
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18 **WHEREAS**, students who participate in JROTC receive the opportunity to use firearms
19 correctly and safely as part of firearms training; and
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21 **WHEREAS**, many students in rural areas have no access to JROTC courses due to an
22 insufficient number of schools offering JROTC courses and the locations of current JROTC
23 programs, and all Missouri high school students deserve the opportunity to enroll in a JROTC
24 course, regardless of the location of their school; and
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26 **WHEREAS**, students deserve access to JROTC courses because the JROTC program
27 creates better, stronger youth; JROTC courses increase the confidence and self-esteem of
28 participants; graduation rates of students in JROTC courses are exponentially higher than the
29 graduation rates of students not enrolled in a JROTC course in their respective schools;
30 attendance rates of students in JROTC courses are higher than those of students not enrolled in

31 a JROTC course; and the grade point averages of students enrolled in JROTC courses are higher
32 than those of students not enrolled in a JROTC course; and

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34 **WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Defense allocates funds to schools and
35 school districts to support JROTC courses:

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37 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
38 Representatives of the One Hundredth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
39 concurring therein, hereby urge all public schools in Missouri school districts to take the
40 necessary steps to institute JROTC courses in their schools; and

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42 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
43 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for each
44 superintendent of a Missouri school district.

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