

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 36

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BARNES.

5120H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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## AN ACT

Relating to veterans week of service.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

1           **WHEREAS**, tens of millions of Americans have served in the United States Armed  
2 Forces since the battles of Lexington and Concord, which started the American Revolutionary  
3 War or the War of Independence, in 1775; and

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5           **WHEREAS**, the past and present sacrifices of each generation of American men and  
6 women who served in the armed forces and the hundreds of thousands who gave their lives to  
7 preserve our democracy must and should be recognized and honored by all residents; and

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9           **WHEREAS**, in 1919, President Woodrow Wilson first proclaimed November 11th as  
10 Armistice Day to honor veterans who fought in World War I and commemorate the  
11 implementation of an armistice between the Allies and Germany at the 11th hour on the 11th  
12 day of November; and

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14           **WHEREAS**, in 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation that  
15 changed the name of Armistice Day to Veterans Day; and

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17           **WHEREAS**, in 1968, the Congress of the United States passed legislation that  
18 established the fourth Monday in October as the day to commemorate and honor the military  
19 service of generations of American veterans; and

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21           **WHEREAS**, in 1978, Congress again passed legislation that reverted the national  
22 observance of Veterans Day back to November 11th; and

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24           **WHEREAS**, not unlike past generations of American veterans, some contemporary  
25 members of our armed forces encounter unique and difficult circumstances when  
26 transitioning from military to civilian life; and

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28           **WHEREAS**, to meet the unique needs of Vietnam-era veterans and servicemembers  
29 returning from deployment in the Middle East, especially Iraq and Afghanistan, some  
30 veterans continue to lead and serve through the establishment of charitable organizations; and

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32           **WHEREAS**, the Veterans Commission and many veteran service organizations in this  
33 state provide essential housing, employment, education and training assistance, supportive  
34 services, qualified referrals, and case management services to eligible veterans,  
35 servicemembers, and their families with the goal of improving their self-sufficiency,  
36 sustainability, and quality of life; and

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38           **WHEREAS**, according to the latest data, the veteran population in this state totals  
39 nearly 443,000 veterans; and

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41           **WHEREAS**, there are many organizations in this state and nationwide that were  
42 established by veterans to help veterans and as an extension of their legacy of service; and

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44           **WHEREAS**, the recognition of Veterans Day gives Americans the opportunity to  
45 thank veterans for their service and recognize their dedication to preserving our freedoms and  
46 democracy; and

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48           **WHEREAS**, our annual commemoration of Veterans Day still embodies the original  
49 purpose of President Woodrow Wilson's official Armistice Day proclamation in November  
50 1919, as a day of reflection "to be filled with the solemn pride in the heroism of those who  
51 died in the country's service"; and

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53           **WHEREAS**, veterans serving veterans, inherent in the work of these kinds of  
54 organizations, evidences the willingness of some veterans to continue to lead and answer the  
55 call of service to our country, communities, and their peers; and

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57           **WHEREAS**, these organizations should be honored and recognized for their efforts to  
58 improve the quality of life of veterans in this state:

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60           **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
61 Representatives of the One Hundred Second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the  
62 Senate concurring therein, hereby designate the week of November 4th through 11th, 2024, as  
63 "Veterans Week of Service" in Missouri to coincide with the annual Veterans Day observance  
64 on November 11, 2024; and

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66           **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that all residents of this state are  
67 encouraged to commemorate Veterans Day with solemn but thankful reflection on the  
68 sacrifices and contributions of all veterans and the legacy of service many veterans continue  
69 to make to our country, community, and peers in this state and nationwide; and

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71           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his  
72 approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.

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