

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R18-0930.01 Joel Moore x4497

**HJR18-1005**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Jackson and Ransom,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Williams A. and Crowder,**

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**House Committees**

**Senate Committees**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 18-1005**

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

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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, In every war fought by or within the United States,  
5      African Americans have participated, including the Revolutionary War,  
6      the War of 1812, the Mexican-American War, the Civil War, the  
7      Spanish-American War, the Indian War, the World Wars, the Korean  
8      War, the Vietnam War, Desert Storm, 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.

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 Seventy-first*  
22 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

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

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