

First Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R19-0886.01 Joel Moore x4497

HJR19-1008

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Williams A. and Fields,

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.

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.