

Second Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R18-0930.01 Joel Moore x4497

HJR18-1005

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Jackson and Ransom,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Williams A. and Crowder,

House Committees

Senate Committees

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 18-1005

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, 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.

HOUSE
Final Reading
January 26, 2018

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.