

By: Senator(s) Doty, Dearing, DeBar, Jackson To: Rules
(32nd)

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 626

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MISSISSIPPI CHAPTERS
2 OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ORGANIZATION ON THE COMMEMORATION OF ITS
3 100TH ANNIVERSARY.

4 WHEREAS, the United States Congress chartered the American
5 Legion on September 16, 1919. 2019 is the 100th Anniversary of
6 this historic and vital service organization; and

7 WHEREAS, to mark this momentous occasion, the Mississippi
8 Legislature is joining the celebration of the service and
9 dedication of the men and women who served in the United States
10 Armed Forces and then joined the organization to serve veterans
11 and their families as well as advocate for their rights and
12 well-being; and

13 WHEREAS, for God and Country, the American Legion has the
14 following purposes:

- 15 • To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States
16 of America;
- 17 • To maintain law and order;
- 18 • To foster and perpetuate a 100% Americanism;



19 • To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations
20 in the Great Wars;

21 • To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the
22 community, state and nation;

23 • To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the
24 masses;

25 • To make right the master of might;

26 • To promote peace and goodwill on earth;

27 • To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of
28 justice, freedom and democracy;

29 • To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion
30 to mutual helpfulness; and

31 WHEREAS, the American Legion organization has played a major
32 role in the drafting and passing of the Servicemen's Readjustment
33 Act of 1944, which is also called the "G.I. Bill." In addition to
34 organizing commemorative events, members provide assistance at
35 Veterans' hospitals and clinics. The American Legion is active in
36 issue-oriented U.S. politics. Its primary political activity is
37 lobbying on behalf of the interests of veterans and service
38 members, including support for benefits such as pensions,
39 improvement of the Veterans Health Administration, and access to
40 benefits and improved services; and

41 WHEREAS, the organization has also historically promoted
42 "Americanism," which is the time-honored view that there is more
43 that unites us than divides us and that despite our differences in



44 background, we all hold dear the ideals that founded the United
45 States; and

46 WHEREAS, the American Legion organization was founded on
47 March 15, 1919, at the American Club in Paris by members of the
48 American Expeditionary Forces who served there in World War I. It
49 is a U.S. war veterans service organization with membership open
50 to those who served at least one day of active duty during World
51 War I or II, Korean War, Vietnam War or served during actions in
52 Lebanon, Grenada and Panama. People who served after August 2,
53 1990, are also eligible for membership. Members must have an
54 honorable discharge or still be serving. The American Legion's
55 headquarters is in Indianapolis, Indiana. It is made up of
56 regional departments and local posts both in the United States and
57 a few locations abroad; and

58 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we join in the
59 celebration which honors our Mississippi veterans whose selfless
60 service is a debt we cannot repay to them and their families:

61 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
62 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
63 we do hereby recognize the Mississippi Chapters of the American
64 Legion organization on the commemoration of its 100th Anniversary.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
66 the Mississippi Department of Veterans and Military Affairs for
67 proper distribution to the local chapters of the American Legion
68 and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

