

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 865

Honoring the heroic military service, sacrifices, and contributions of veterans
from the great State of Texas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 13, 2023

Ms. CROCKETT (for herself, Mr. FALLON, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. BABIN, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. ELLZEY, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LUTTRELL, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. MORAN, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. SELF, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. WEBER of Texas) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

RESOLUTION

Honoring the heroic military service, sacrifices, and
contributions of veterans from the great State of Texas.

Whereas the United States of America owes an immeasurable debt of gratitude to the brave men and women who have served in its Armed Forces, safeguarding liberties and upholding the democratic principles upon which the United States was founded;

Whereas the country observes November 11 of each year as “Veterans Day”, a Federal holiday honoring the men and

women who served and sacrificed for the United States of America;

Whereas Texas boasts a proud tradition of producing remarkable veterans who make extraordinary contributions to society;

Whereas Texas is home to more than 1,600,000 veterans;

Whereas veterans comprise 15 percent of the population in the State of Texas;

Whereas women comprise more than 11 percent of the total Texas veteran population;

Whereas people of color comprise roughly one-third of the veterans in Texas;

Whereas Texas has 11 veterans currently serving in the 118th Congress as Representatives for the Lonestar State;

Whereas Texans have served with distinction in all military conflicts involving the United States of America, including World War I, World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas more than 22,000 Texan lives were lost while serving in World War II;

Whereas more than 1,000 Texan lives were lost while serving in the Korean War;

Whereas more than 2,000 Texan lives were lost while serving in the Vietnam war;

Whereas more than 100 Texan lives were lost while serving in Operation Enduring Freedom;

Whereas more than 400 Texan lives were lost while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas veterans across the country continue to face challenges in accessing essential resources supporting their successful transition to civilian life;

Whereas Texas is home to countless medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including Sam Rayburn Memorial Veterans Center, the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, the Kerrville VA Hospital, Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and the Dallas VA Medical Center;

Whereas nearly half of patients served by the Veterans Health Administration have been diagnosed with a mental illness or substance use condition;

Whereas post-traumatic stress disorder has accounted for the majority of disabilities women veterans suffer from as a result of their military service;

Whereas veteran mental health struggles have led to staggering statistics in veteran suicide rates, where roughly 17 veteran lives are lost per day as a result of suicide;

Whereas, in 1994, Congress established the Center for Minority Veterans and the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans under the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-446) to advise to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on administering Department of Veterans Affairs benefits for minority veterans by reviewing reports and studies on compensation, health care, rehabilitation, outreach, and other benefits and services administered by the Department, and ensure all veterans receive equal service regardless of race, origin, religion, or gender;

Whereas the Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates that more than 31,000 veterans are homeless, with nearly half experiencing unsheltered homelessness;

Whereas the Department of Veterans Affairs has developed several housing assistance initiatives, including integrating increasing voucher use and accelerate housing placements, increasing veterans' access to legal services through legal services grants and community partnerships, as well as assisting with advancing veteran employment within the labor force to address the complex problems surrounding homeless veterans;

Whereas Texas leads the Nation in both overall veteran-owned and women-veteran-owned businesses; and

Whereas, despite gains with veteran-owned businesses, roughly two-thirds of veterans struggle with the transition from military service to civilian life, and note that “finding a job” is one of the greatest challenges in doing so given the difficulty with transferring their military skills to a civilian work environment: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) honors the service, sacrifice, and contribu-
3 tions Texas veterans and their families have made to
4 the cause of peace and freedom around the world;

5 (2) commits to working with, where proper, the
6 Department of Veterans Affairs and appropriate ex-
7 ecutive agencies to ensure that veterans are provided
8 timely care and are given the benefits and com-

1 pensation they are entitled to as a result of their
2 service;

3 (3) reaffirms the commitment of Congress to
4 assisting veterans with their transition to civilian life
5 upon concluding their service in the Armed Forces;
6 and

7 (4) recognizes that Congress must continue to
8 invest in vital programs and resources to support the
9 brave men and women veterans who have safe-
10 guarded the Nation's liberties and upheld democratic
11 principles at home and abroad.

○