

Resolution No. 2019 -

RESOLUTION OF THE SOLANO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RECOGNIZING THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AND AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

WHEREAS, the American Legion was founded in Paris, France, in March 1919 by U.S. military personnel in the aftermath of World War I. The months following the armistice of Nov. 11, 1918 gave these soldiers time to imagine their lives after the war. What they developed was the framework for a new kind of veteran's organization that focused not only on care and treatment for disabled veterans returning to civilian life, but strengthening an entire nation; and

WHEREAS, federally chartered September 1919, the American Legion has become an influential entity on the national, state and local levels on issues related to our veterans, national defense, youth and patriotism. In the year following its founding, 5,400 local posts had been chartered. Today there are more than 13,000 posts worldwide with more than 2.2 million wartime-veteran members; and

WHEREAS, during the National Convention of the American Legion in 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary was founded to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military and their families. The American Legion Auxiliary's mission is to support the American Legion and is the world's largest women's patriotic service organization; and

WHEREAS, accomplishments of the American Legion include a demand for an effective federal agency to fulfill disability benefits, provide health care and education for veterans. Out of that came the Veterans Bureau in 1921, the Veterans Administration in 1930 and the Department of Veterans Affairs in 1989. The American Legion also championed creation of the Serviceman's Readjustment Act of 1944, better known as the G.I. Bill, creation of the U.S. Flag Code, a national baseball program to promote teamwork, discipline and physical fitness for tens of thousands of youth-many of whom would be called to a second world war in 1941. The American Legion Boys State and Boys Nation programs were launched to provide young men firsthand understanding of how government and civil service function in a democracy. The American Legion Auxiliary also provides young girls leadership and civics education through its Girls State program; and

WHEREAS, at any given time, more than 3,000 trained American Legion service officers are assisting roughly 750,000 veterans and their families who are due government benefits, all at no cost. Locally, Solano County is home to eight American Legion Posts and affiliated Auxiliary groups which can be found in more than 8,000 communities in the United State and abroad.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Solano County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes the 100th anniversary of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and their contributions to veterans, our military and local communities.

Dated this 12th day of March, 2019

ERIN HANNIGAN, Chairwoman
Solano County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:
BIRGITTA E. CORSELLO, Clerk
Solano County Board of Supervisors

By: _____
Jeanette Neiger, Chief Deputy Clerk