

Legislation Text

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Recognizing the United States Army for providing for the safety and security of the nation since its creation in the City of Philadelphia 244 years ago.

WHEREAS, The United States Army's history in Philadelphia began with the formation of the oldest regiment in Pennsylvania, the 111th Infantry Regiment, founded by Benjamin Franklin on November 21, 1747; and

WHEREAS, At the outset of the American Revolution, the colonies did not have a formal military with one chain of command. Instead, they relied on volunteer troops from militia companies in New England, which were locally led and supported. In the spring of 1775, as these troops prepared to face the British forces, the colonists recognized that they would only sustain a chance of victory if they organized and enlisted the support of all 13 colonies; and

WHEREAS, Meeting in Philadelphia on June 14, 1775, the Second Continental Congress formed the Continental Army as a means for the 13 unified American colonies to fight the forces of Britain. The troops based in Boston now had federal support. The Second Continental Congress also resolved to form a committee which would draft rules and regulations for the Army, allocated funds to support troops in Boston and New York, and authorized the creation of 10 companies of expert riflemen from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia to support the existing militia forces in New England; and

WHEREAS, The United States Army's birthday is celebrated each year on this day, June 14th; and

WHEREAS, General George Washington was unanimously elected Commander-In-Chief of the new Army the next day, and he would lead the colonies to victory and independence; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, the United States Army has developed leaders of character who have gone on to serve the Greater Philadelphia Area. It currently provides more than 150 different career paths in art, science, intelligence, combat, aviation, engineering, law and more; and

WHEREAS, The United States Army and its 1 million soldiers stand watch for the country, day and night, against all enemies. They are respected around the world for their bravery and vigor; and

WHEREAS, From the Revolution to the Civil War to the World Wars to the present day, the City of Philadelphia is thankful for and is proud to support the United States Army. On the occasion of the Army's 244th Birthday, the City remembers those who have sacrificed to serve their nation in the Army and thanks and recognizes the Army veterans who call Philadelphia home today; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY PHILADELPHIA, That it hereby recognizes the United States Army for providing for the safety and security of the nation since its creation in the City of Philadelphia 244 years ago; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the United States Army,

evidencing the sincere admiration and respect of this legislative body.