ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 219

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 8, 2021

Sponsored by: Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by: Assemblymen Conaway, Dancer and Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttle

SYNOPSIS

Commemorates 125th anniversary of Jewish War Veterans of United States of America.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/8/2021)

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION commemorating the 125th
 anniversary of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of
 America.

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WHEREAS, On March 15, 1896, 63 Civil War veterans gathered inside
an opera house in New York City with the goal of combatting antiSemitism, and left having created the Hebrew Union Veterans
Association, now known as the Jewish War Veterans of the United
States of America (JWV); and

WHEREAS, The JWV is the oldest continually active veterans
organization in the country, and has spent the last 125 years
advocating for Jewish soldiers, supporting the United States in its
wartime efforts, fighting for racial, religious, and gender
protections, providing veterans services, and attaining numerous
other notable achievements; and

WHEREAS, The early efforts of the JWV included advocating for the
rights of Jewish military members and a successful appeal to
President Taft in 1913 after soldiers were denied leave for Yom
Kippur, and fighting for legislation to ensure that the graves of
Jewish service members who died in World War I in France were
marked with a Star of David; and

WHEREAS, After Adolph Hitler assumed the role of Chancellor of
Germany in 1933, the JWV became the first organization to launch
the boycott of German goods in the United States, and lead a march
of over 4,000 veterans on City Hall in New York City which
commenced with New York City Mayor John P. O'Brien publicly
endorsing the boycott; and

WHEREAS, During World War II, the JWV created the Emergency
Program for Victory which called for a comprehensive civilian
program to support the war effort and included several fundraising
drives that allowed the JWV to purchase six fighter planes, 25
ambulances, and several field kitchens for the United States
military; and

WHEREAS, The JWV was one of the first organizations to support the
American Legion's efforts to pass the "Servicemen's Readjustment
Act of 1944", more commonly known as the first GI Bill, and
pushed for strong racial and religious protections while lobbying for
the legislation; and

WHEREAS, During the Korean War, the JWV aimed to mitigate the
national blood shortage, and, in coordination with the American
Red Cross, sponsored National Baseball Blood Month in 1952
which saw blood drives in ballparks in 53 cities and lead to the
JWV receiving credit for the first 100 pints of blood delivered in
Korea; and

WHEREAS, In 1955, the JWV established the Shrine to Jewish War
Dead which received a Congressional Charter from President
Eisenhower and was later renamed the American Museum of
American Jewish Military History; and

1 WHEREAS, The JWV has a history of advocating for civil rights and is 2 the only Veterans Service Organization known to have participated 3 in the 1963 March on Washington with Martin Luther King, Jr.; 4 and 5 WHEREAS, After the September 11th terrorist attacks, the JWV sent care packages overseas and the organization's national leadership 6 7 visited wounded troops at the Walter Reed Medical Center; and 8 WHEREAS, The Jewish War Veterans of the USA Foundation was 9 created in 2010 to support veterans and active duty military 10 personnel and their families, and awards over \$5,000 in grants 11 annually; and 12 WHEREAS, New Jersey is proudly home to 20 Jewish War Veterans 13 posts: Augenblick-Marcus Post 669; Bayonne Post 18; Clearbrook 14 Post 395; Dan Michelson-Livingston Post 740; David Blick Post 15 63; Essex-Preiskel-Miller-Glassberg Post 47; Furer-Barag-Wolf Post 126; Jersey Shore Post 125; Kaufman Harris Cone Wayne Post 16 17 695; Lt. Garr-Greenstein-Friedenberg Post 39; Lt. James I. Platt 18 Post 651; Lt. Seth Dvorin Post 972; Memorial Post 601; Monroe Township Post 609; N. Hudson-J. George Fredman Post 76; Ocean 19 20 County Post 178; Oglensky Jackson Post 359; Sanford L. Kahn 21 Post 538; Sgt. Sheldon Sheinfine Post 311; and Spc. Mark Seiden-22 Ben Kaufman Post 444; and 23 WHEREAS, Given the numerous and historical achievements in the organization's long history, it is fitting for this House to 24 25 commemorate and congratulate the Jewish War Veterans of the 26 United States of America on celebrating 125 years of service; now, 27 therefore, 28 29 BE IT RESOLVED by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey (the Senate concurring): 30 31 32 1. The Legislature of the State of New Jersey commemorates 33 the 125th anniversary of the Jewish War Veterans of the United 34 States of America. 35 36 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, 37 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the 38 Secretary of the Senate to the National Commander of the Jewish 39 War Veterans of the United States of America. 40 41 42 **STATEMENT** 43 44 This resolution commemorates the 125th anniversary of the 45 Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America (JWV). The JWV was founded on March 15, 1896 when 63 Jewish Civil War 46 veterans gathered in New York City with the goal of combatting 47

1 anti-Semitism. The result was the creation of the Hebrew Union 2 Veterans Association, now known as the JWV. The JWV is the oldest continually active veterans' organization 3 in the country, and has played prominent roles in the wartime 4 5 efforts of the United States of America during the past 125 years. In addition to providing wartime support to the country, the JWV 6 7 advocates for the rights of Jewish military members and has a 8 history of achievements including lobbying successfully in 1913 for 9 service leave for Yom Kippur and supporting legislation to ensure 10 that the graves of service members who died in World War I in 11 France were marked with a Star of David. 12 New Jersey is proudly home to 20 Jewish War Veterans posts: 13 Augenblick-Marcus Post 669; Bayonne Post 18; Clearbrook Post 395; Dan Michelson-Livingston Post 740; David Blick Post 63; 14 15 Essex-Preiskel-Miller-Glassberg Post 47; Furer-Barag-Wolf Post 16 126; Jersey Shore Post 125; Kaufman Harris Cone Wayne Post 695; 17 Lt. Garr-Greenstein-Friedenberg Post 39; Lt. James I. Platt Post 651; Lt. Seth Dvorin Post 972; Memorial Post 601; Monroe 18

County Post 178; Oglensky Jackson Post 359; Sanford L. Kahn Post
538; Sgt. Sheldon Sheinfine Post 311; and Spc. Mark Seiden-Ben
Kaufman Post 444.

Township Post 609; N. Hudson-J. George Fredman Post 76; Ocean

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The JWV continues to offer services to veterans and members of the military, and offers a number of programs, as well as providing grant funding through their Jewish War Veterans of the USA Foundation.