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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 552 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY READSHAW, RYAN, KULIK, HENNESSEY, WHEATLEY, KORTZ, BIZZARRO, HARKINS, SCHLOSSBERG, COX, RAVENSTAHL, SONNEY, CAUSER, SAINATO, KINSEY, POLINCHOCK, MALAGARI, HILL-EVANS, FREEMAN, MURT, LONGIETTI, PYLE, STAATS, DIGIROLAMO, T. DAVIS, MILLARD, JAMES, SOLOMON, TOEPEL, YOUNGBLOOD, BARRAR, DELLOSO, DeLUCA, HOWARD, MACKENZIE, OBERLANDER, McNEILL, CALTAGIRONE, BROWN, MERSKI, PICKETT, KAUFFMAN, BURNS, ROTHMAN, JOZWIAK, HICKERNELL, BOBACK, MENTZER, DEASY, MOUL, BERNSTINE, KEEFER AND SCHWEYER, OCTOBER 11, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, OCTOBER 11, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the 244th birthday of the United States Marine Corps on  
2 November 10, 2019.

3 WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps was founded as the  
4 Continental Marines by a resolution passed by the Second  
5 Continental Congress on November 10, 1775, which raised two  
6 battalions of Marines; and

7 WHEREAS, The birth of the Marine Corps was to augment naval  
8 forces in the Revolutionary War; and

9 WHEREAS, The Tun Tavern on Water Street in Philadelphia, the  
10 original recruiting headquarters, is considered the Marine  
11 Corps' birthplace; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1798, President John Adams signed the law  
13 establishing the Marine Corps as a permanent military force  
14 under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Navy; and

1       WHEREAS, The Marine Corps has fought with great courage on  
2 six continents and in every conflict in American history,  
3 including the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, World War I,  
4 World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam Conflict; and

5       WHEREAS, The Marine Corps has also served in support of  
6 Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi  
7 Freedom; and

8       WHEREAS, The Marine Corps has fought valiantly in defense of  
9 the United States and its citizens and principles; and

10       WHEREAS, There are approximately 184,000 active duty and  
11 40,000 reserve members of the Marine Corps; and

12       WHEREAS, Marines recognize the Marine Corps as a tradition  
13 built on time-honored values and principles; and

14       WHEREAS, Marines truly embody the motto of the Marine Corps,  
15 Semper Fidelis, which translates from Latin as "always faithful"  
16 and signifies the defense of freedom and democracy worldwide;  
17 and

18       WHEREAS, Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima, the famous photograph  
19 by Joe Rosenthal, will always symbolize the triumph and glory of  
20 the Marine Corps; and

21       WHEREAS, The Marine Air-Ground Task Force integrates a ground  
22 combat element, an aviation combat element and a logistics  
23 combat element under a common command element; and

24       WHEREAS, Known for amphibious and land capabilities, the  
25 Marine Air-Ground Task Force operates independently or as part  
26 of a larger coalition; and

27       WHEREAS, During World War I, Marines fought the famed Battle  
28 of Belleau Wood, establishing a reputation for toughness and  
29 fierceness; and

30       WHEREAS, The Marine Corps played a central role in the

1 liberation of the Pacific Islands during World War II; and  
2 WHEREAS, The momentum of the Korean War shifted when the  
3 Marine Corps, in conjunction with the Navy, launched a massive  
4 amphibious attack at Inchon, surprising the North Koreans by  
5 putting thousands of United States troops behind enemy lines;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The Marine Corps participated in major offensives of  
8 the Vietnam Conflict, engaging in guerrilla warfare,  
9 implementing unconventional techniques for counterinsurgency and  
10 working as military advisors to the Republic of Vietnam Marine  
11 Corps; and

12 WHEREAS, From 1990 to 1991, Marines participated in Operation  
13 Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm, leading the liberation  
14 of Kuwait and the defeat of Iraqi forces; and

15 WHEREAS, The Marine Corps continues to make significant  
16 contributions to the war on terrorism; and

17 WHEREAS, The Marine Corps supports peacekeeping missions and  
18 humanitarian operations in numerous countries, including  
19 Liberia, Bangladesh, the Philippines and Somalia; and

20 WHEREAS, Marine Corps Order No. 47, Series 1921, written by  
21 Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune, Major General Commandant of  
22 the Marine Corps, established the mandatory celebration of the  
23 Marine Corps' birthday; and

24 WHEREAS, Balls and banquets have been added to the  
25 celebration starting with the first formal dance in 1923 at Fort  
26 Mifflin Marine Barracks; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the 244th  
28 birthday of the United States Marine Corps on November 10, 2019.