
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 346 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY COLLETT, STEFANO, BREWSTER, BROWNE, BARTOLOTTA,
MARTIN, COMITTA, COSTA, KANE, CAPPELLETTI, FONTANA, GORDNER,
STREET, DILLON, SCHWANK, MENSCH, MUTH, ROBINSON AND HAYWOOD,
OCTOBER 6, 2022

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, OCTOBER 6, 2022

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Designating Pennsylvania as a Hidden Heroes state in support of
2 military and veteran caregivers.

3 WHEREAS, Since World War II, the series of wars and conflicts
4 in which our nation has been engaged has resulted in
5 approximately 5.5 million military and veteran caregivers who
6 are parents, spouses, siblings and friends of those wounded, ill
7 or injured as a result of their service to our nation, as
8 documented by a 2014 study by the RAND Corporation and the
9 Elizabeth Dole Foundation; and

10 WHEREAS, The daily tasks of military and veteran caregivers
11 may include bathing, feeding, administering medications and
12 dressing and caring for the grievous injuries of wounded
13 warriors, providing emotional support, caring for the family and
14 the home and working outside the home to earn essential income;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The nation provides multifaceted support to our
17 wounded, ill and injured veterans and service members through

1 public, private and philanthropic resources, but their
2 caregivers receive little support or acknowledgment; and

3 WHEREAS, Most military and veteran caregivers consider the
4 challenging work they do as simply carrying out their civic and
5 patriotic duty, without realizing they are caregivers, and do
6 not identify themselves as such; and

7 WHEREAS, An alarming number of military and veteran
8 caregivers are suffering numerous debilitating mental, physical
9 and emotional effects as a result of their caregiving duties;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth desires to recognize and support
12 those who are serving in these vital roles in our communities;
13 therefore be it

14 RESOLVED (the House of Representatives concurring), That the
15 General Assembly designate Pennsylvania as a Hidden Heroes state
16 in support of military and veteran caregivers; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth seek to identify military and
18 veteran caregivers residing in our communities and determine the
19 unique challenges that they face; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth work to ensure that our
21 government, nonprofit and other organizations are aware of the
22 unique challenges of military and veteran caregivers; and be it
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly encourage nonprofit and
25 other organizations to create supportive environments and
26 opportunities for assistance for military and veteran
27 caregivers; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth plan an annual observance or
29 resource fair in partnership with the Elizabeth Dole
30 Foundation's national Hidden Heroes campaign to recognize

1 communities' military and veteran caregivers and connect them
2 with local resources; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly encourage the residents
4 of this Commonwealth to extend their support for veterans and
5 service members to their caregivers as well; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth designate a point of contact
7 for our communities, from the public or private sector, for
8 citizens and organizations that want to offer support and for
9 caregivers who need that support; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth use the Elizabeth Dole
11 Foundation's Military Caregiver Experience Map to understand the
12 stages of a military caregiver's journey and use it as a tool to
13 encourage community understanding and support.