

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas military caregivers are nameless, courageous, giving individuals whose determination and sacrifices are rarely acknowledged and little-known outside of the military community;

Whereas a military caregiver provides support and medical care to a member of the uniformed services or veteran who suffers from a physical, mental, or emotional wound or injury;

Whereas military caregivers can include a father, mother, spouse, sibling, family member, loved one, or close friend of an injured member of the uniformed services or veteran;

Whereas since the first armed conflict of the United States, injured veterans have been cared for by family members and loved ones after returning home from combat;

Whereas since the Revolutionary War, military caregivers in the United States have tended to injured veterans as the veterans have recovered from seen and unseen wounds from combat operations;

Whereas military caregivers have shown time and time again, regardless of the conflict, that caring for those who return home is a part of the character of the United States;

Whereas many of the members of the uniformed services and veterans who served in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom—

- (1) suffered wounds or injuries; and
- (2) require assistance from a caregiver to complete either activities of daily living such as bathing, dressing, and feeding, or instrumental activities such as transportation, meal preparation, and health management;

Whereas according to a study of military caregivers conducted by the RAND Corporation, more than 1,000,000 individuals serve as caregivers to veterans who served in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–163; 124 Stat. 1130) facilitated a new program for access to health insurance, mental health services, caregiver training, and respite care by family caregivers of veterans who served in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas the adoration, loyalty, and longevity of military caregivers—

- (1) endures through the hardships of extended hospital stays, multiple surgeries, and lifetimes of care; and
- (2) helps create a fresh start that is hopeful even during difficult times;

Whereas the sunflower is a flower that symbolizes adoration, loyalty, and longevity; and

Whereas there is no more appropriate representation of the devotion and determination to overcome obstacles shown every day by military caregivers than the sunflower: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring)*, That Congress—

3 (1) honors military caregivers for service and
4 sacrifice to the United States;

5 (2) encourages the people of the United
6 States—

7 (A) to show support to military families;
8 and

9 (B) to recognize the sacrifices endured by
10 those families in service to the United States;
11 and

12 (3) recognizes the sunflower as the flower for
13 military caregivers.

Passed the Senate July 11, 2016.

Attest:

Secretary.

114TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 44

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing the sunflower as the flower for military
caregivers.