

House Resolution 25 - Introduced

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 25

BY SMITH, GASKILL, ISENHART, HUNTER, STUTSMAN,
MASCHER, WINCKLER, LENSING, THEDE, H. MILLER,
HANSON, STAED, ANDERSON, McCONKEY, OURTH, KEARNS,
ABDUL-SAMAD, STECKMAN, OLSON, LYKAM, GAINES,
BROWN-POWERS, KRESSIG, WESSEL-KROESCHELL,
FINKENAUER, PRICHARD, COHOON, BEARINGER, WOLFE, and
KELLEY

1 A Resolution commemorating the sesquicentennial of the
2 conclusion of the American Civil War.

3 WHEREAS, the Civil War was a defining moment in
4 our nation's history, as the Union was preserved and
5 slavery abolished; and

6 WHEREAS, at the order of President Abraham Lincoln,
7 the State of Iowa mustered the 1st Regiment Iowa
8 Volunteer Infantry for service in May 1861, to be part
9 of the Army of the West; and

10 WHEREAS, approximately 70 percent of adult white
11 males in Iowa served in local militias, home guards, or
12 the Army or Navy of the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, African Americans from Iowa also served the
14 Union cause by forming the 1st Iowa African Infantry,
15 later reorganized by the United States Army as the 60th
16 Regiment United States Colored Troops; and

17 WHEREAS, by the end of the Civil War, Iowa had
18 raised 52 units; and

19 WHEREAS, for many Iowans in the Civil War their
20 baptism under fire came at Wilson's Creek, on a sultry
21 August day in 1861; and

22 WHEREAS, Iowa's volunteer regiments fought in

1 many battles and sieges in the Mississippi River
2 valley area, including those at Shiloh and Vicksburg,
3 and participated in many lesser-known engagements
4 in Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, and
5 Mississippi; and

6 WHEREAS, following the capture of Vicksburg, most
7 Iowa regiments were shifted east, and many fought under
8 Major General William Tecumseh Sherman at Atlanta in
9 the summer of 1864 and later joined his famous March
10 to the Sea; and

11 WHEREAS, Union forces claimed important military
12 victories in Virginia in the Richmond-Petersburg
13 Campaign, from June 9, 1864, through March 25, 1865,
14 and in the Appomattox Campaign, from March 29, 1865,
15 through April 9, 1865; and

16 WHEREAS, on the afternoon of April 9, 1865, General
17 Robert E. Lee, commander of the Army of Northern
18 Virginia, met with Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant,
19 commander of the Army of the Potomac, at the home of
20 Wilmer McLean in the community of Appomattox Court
21 House, Virginia, to discuss terms of surrender for the
22 Army of Northern Virginia; and

23 WHEREAS, the events of April 9, 1865, effectively
24 ended the military campaign in Virginia and signaled
25 the conclusion of the Civil War; and

26 WHEREAS, many Iowa regiments would later march in
27 the Grand Review of the Armies in Washington, D.C., in
28 May 1865, following the victorious end of the war; NOW
29 THEREFORE,

30 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

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1 That the House of Representatives today honors the
2 lives and contributions of all Iowans who labored and
3 fought to preserve the Union and those who, following
4 such service, continued to serve the State of Iowa and
5 the United States of America at the conclusion of the
6 American Civil War.