

State of Misconsin 2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

## **2019 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 99**

February 14, 2020 – Introduced by Senators FITZGERALD and ROTH, cosponsored by Representatives Skowronski and Kurtz. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1	Relating to: recognizing, honoring, and commemorating the 100th anniversary of
2	Disabled American Veterans for its century of providing service to veterans and
3	its continuing efforts.
4	Whereas, the state of Wisconsin is the home to 363,898 veterans, as well as their
5	families and survivors; and
6	Whereas, Disabled American Veterans (DAV) was founded on September 25,
7	1920, and chartered by Congress on June 17, 1932, in recognition of the
8	organization's role as the official voice of the nation's wartime disabled veterans; and
9	Whereas, in 2020, the DAV celebrates 100 years of serving veterans of the
10	Armed Forces, their families, their survivors, and their communities; and
11	Whereas, DAV is the largest wartime veterans service organization in the
12	United States made up exclusively of men and women disabled in our nation's
13	defense with approximately 1,000,000 military service-disabled veterans in its
14	membership, including nearly 15,000 members in the state of Wisconsin; and

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1	Whereas, DAV's National Headquarters is located in Cold Spring, Kentucky,
2	and its National Service and Legislation Headquarters is located in Washington,
3	D.C., as well as having 55 Departments and over 1,300 Chapters located throughout
4	the country, including one Department and 43 Chapters in the state of Wisconsin;
5	and
6	Whereas, since its founding, DAV has served American veterans wounded,
7	injured, or made ill due to military service by advocating for the establishment of the
8	Department of Veterans Affairs (VA); and by fighting in the halls of Congress and
9	state capitols throughout the nation, including the capitol in the state of Wisconsin,
10	for benefits and services for disabled veterans; and
11	Whereas, in 1920, DAV began representing the interests of veterans, and
12	subsequently developed a professional National Service Officer corps which has
13	made DAV the nation's preeminent provider of claims assistance to America's injured
14	and ill veterans, their families, and their survivors; and
15	Whereas, DAV cosponsors the National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports
16	Clinic; has organized a nationwide transportation network, including one in the
17	state of Wisconsin, which provides free transportation to VA medical facilities for
18	injured and ill veterans; has an active Charitable Trust, whose President resides in
19	the state of Wisconsin, which funds the needs of local providers assisting at-risk local
20	veterans; has an active volunteer corps offering thousands of hours of voluntary
21	service to our veterans and their communities, including in the state of Wisconsin,
22	where 78,692 volunteer hours were generated in 2019; and has the Jesse Brown
23	scholarship program which annually offers \$75,000 in scholarships to young
24	Americans; and

1	Whereas, DAV has championed important programs for improving the lives of
2	all veterans, such as the establishment of a cabinet level Department of Veterans
3	Affairs, the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, a modernized appeals process, and
4	an advanced appropriation to ensure adequate and timely funding for VA; has
5	championed family caregivers' benefits; and has established the model for today's Vet
6	Centers; and
7	Whereas, DAV continues to advocate and create awareness for many issues
8	affecting our nation's veterans, such as equitable benefits and services for women
9	veterans; appropriate resources for mental health and suicide prevention services;
10	and benefits for all veterans exposed to toxic substances; now, therefore, be it
11	Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the legislature
12	recognizes, honors, and commemorates the 100th anniversary of Disabled American

13 Veterans for its century of providing service to veterans and its continuing efforts.

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(END)