

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY YOUTH PROGRAMS

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO SIXTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 2017

IN THE SENATE SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 101 BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND SUPPORTING AND COMMENDING THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, ITS LEGIONNAIRES AND LEGION AUXILIARY IN ITS VOLUNTEER EFFORTS TO SERVE THE YOUTH OF IDAHO THROUGH ALL OF ITS YOUTH PROGRAMS AND DESIGNATING THE SECOND THURSDAY IN JANUARY OF EACH YEAR AS AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY YOUTH PROGRAMS DAY IN IDAHO.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO:

WHEREAS, THE AMERICAN LEGION IS THE LARGEST NATIONAL VETERANS ORGANIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES, WITH MEMBERSHIP OF 2.4 MILLION MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED THEIR COUNTRY IN TIME OF ARMED CONFLICT, AND IS DEDICATED TO SERVING THE NEEDS OF ALL VETERANS BY ADVOCATING FOR AND SUPPORTING VETERAN BENEFITS OWED BY A GRATEFUL NATION TO THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED TO DEFEND LIBERTY AND FREEDOM; AND

WHEREAS, THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY AMERICANISM COMMISSION PROMOTES AN UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT, THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP AND ACTIVITY IN THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE THROUGH YOUTH ACTIVITIES, COMMUNITY SERVICE, INSTRUCTION OF PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS AND LEGAL IMMIGRANTS, EDUCATION AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES, AND PROTECTION OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG FROM PHYSICAL DESECRATION; AND

WHEREAS, THE AMERICAN LEGION YOUTH PROGRAMS UNDER THE AMERICANISM COMMISSION ANNUALLY CONDUCT GEM BOYS STATE, SPONSOR LEGION BASEBALL, CONDUCT LEGION ORATORICAL CONTESTS, AWARD LEGION SCHOLARSHIPS, SPONSOR BOY AND GIRL SCOUT TROOPS AND SUPPORT OTHER SPECIALIZED YOUTH PROGRAMS BENEFITING YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN IN IDAHO; AND

WHEREAS, THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY YOUTH PROGRAMS UNDER THE AMERICANISM COMMISSION ANNUALLY CONDUCT SYRINGA GIRLS STATE AND SUPPORT OTHER SPECIALIZED YOUTH PROGRAMS BENEFITING YOUNG WOMEN IN IDAHO; AND

WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT OF IDAHO AMERICAN LEGION AND AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY ORGANIZE AND DIRECT IDAHO LEGIONNAIRES AND LEGION AUXILIARY MEMBERS IN LEGION POSTS ACROSS THE STATE OF IDAHO TO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME AND ENERGY TO CONDUCT AND SUPPORT THESE PROGRAMS TO ENGAGE MORE CURRENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF IDAHO YOUTH; AND

WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT OF IDAHO AMERICAN LEGION AND LEGION AUXILIARY HAVE RECENTLY FORMED A YOUTH PROGRAMS COMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSE OF RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY YOUTH PROGRAMS AND DIRECTLY SOLICITING DONATIONS FROM IDAHO CORPORATIONS, CORPORATE FOUNDATIONS, PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, TRADE GROUPS, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER ENTITIES INTERESTED IN PARTNERING WITH THE IDAHO AMERICAN LEGION AND LEGION AUXILIARY TO EXPAND AND ENHANCE THESE YOUTH PROGRAMS IN IDAHO WHILE PROMOTING STUDENT, PARENT, EDUCATOR AND GUIDANCE COUNSELOR AWARENESS OF THEIR BENEFITS; AND

WHEREAS, THE STATE OF IDAHO CURRENTLY SUPPORTS THE GEM BOYS STATE AND SYRINGA GIRLS STATE PROGRAMS THROUGH ACCESS TO THE IDAHO STATE CAPITOL DURING THESE WEEKLONG GOVERNMENT-IN-ACTION PROGRAMS, REFLECTING HOW SUCH PROGRAMS BENEFIT THE STATE OF IDAHO BOTH SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY THROUGH CITIZENSHIP AND GOVERNMENT; AND

WHEREAS, MANY MEMBERS OF THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE PARTICIPATED IN AND WERE PERSONALLY IMPACTED BY AMERICAN LEGION YOUTH PROGRAMS WHILE GROWING UP IN IDAHO, INCLUDING GEM BOYS STATERS AND SYRINGA GIRLS STATERS; AND

WHEREAS, THE STATE OF IDAHO BENEFITS BOTH SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY FROM BETTER INFORMED YOUTH REGARDING CITIZENSHIP AND GOVERNMENT.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SIXTY-FOURTH IDAHO LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, THAT THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE ENTHUSIASTICALLY SUPPORTS AND COMMENDS THE DEPARTMENT OF IDAHO AMERICAN LEGION, ITS LEGIONNAIRES AND LEGION AUXILIARY IN THEIR VOLUNTEER EFFORTS TO SERVE THE YOUTH OF IDAHO THROUGH ALL OF THEIR YOUTH PROGRAMS; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE STRONGLY SUPPORTS AWARENESS OF AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY YOUTH PROGRAMS AND ENCOURAGES ITS MEMBERS TO PROMOTE BOTH AWARENESS AND BENEFITS TO STUDENTS, PARENTS, EDUCATORS, GUIDANCE COUNSELORS, COMMUNITY AND CIVIC LEADERS IN THEIR LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE ENCOURAGES IDAHO CORPORATIONS, CORPORATE FOUNDATIONS, PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, TRADE GROUPS, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER ENTITIES TO PARTNER WITH THE IDAHO AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY THROUGH ANNUAL DONATIONS TO EXPAND AND ENHANCE THESE YOUTH PROGRAMS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE YOUTH OF IDAHO AND, IN TURN, THE STATE OF IDAHO; AND

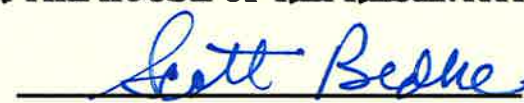
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE DECLARES **THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH JANUARY**, TO COINCIDE WITH THE CONVENING OF THE STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND ANNUAL WINTER MEETING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF IDAHO AMERICAN LEGION, TO BE DESIGNATED **AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY YOUTH PROGRAMS DAY IN IDAHO**.

FOR THE SENATE


BRENT HILL
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE



FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES


SCOTT BEDKE
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE