

1 HJR39
2 209965-2
3 By Representatives McCutcheon, Ball, Hall, Daniels, Reynolds,
4 Sanderford, Whitt and Whorton
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 09-FEB-21

1
2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
3 COMMENDING THE AMERICAN LEGION AND WELCOMING
4 AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL COMMANDER, JAMES W. OXFORD, TO
5 ALABAMA.

6
7 WHEREAS, the American Legion is the Nation's largest
8 Veterans Service Organization; and

9 WHEREAS, the American Legion was chartered by
10 Congress in 1919 as a patriotic Veterans Organization focusing
11 on service to Veterans, service members, and communities; and

12 WHEREAS, the American Legion evolved from Veterans
13 of World War I into one of the most influential nonprofit
14 Veterans Service Organizations in the United States; and

15 WHEREAS, the American Legion Department of Alabama
16 had a pivotal role in establishing the Alabama Department of
17 Veterans Affairs in 1945; and

18 WHEREAS, the American Legion was instrumental in the
19 formation of the Veterans Administration and the G.I. Bill,
20 both of which provide services to our country's defenders of
21 freedom; and

22 WHEREAS, today, membership stands at nearly two
23 million Veterans in more than 13,000 posts worldwide organized
24 into 55 departments: one each for the 50 states, along with

1 the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and the
2 Philippines; and

3 WHEREAS, the American Legion has influenced
4 considerable social change in America, advocated for benefits
5 on behalf of America's Veterans, and produced many important
6 programs for America's youth; and

7 WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020, the
8 American Legion responded to Buddy Check activities to assist
9 all Veterans; conducted blood drives and food delivery
10 services; provided supplies to parents suddenly forced to
11 homeschool their children; supplied protective masks to the
12 public; provided disaster relief aid to citizens affected by
13 Hurricane Laura in Louisiana and Hurricane Sally in southeast
14 Alabama; and many other acts of community support; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2021, the American Legion celebrates 102
16 years of serving Veterans, service members, and their
17 families; now therefore,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
19 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we join Alabama's more than
20 400,000 Veterans to hereby welcome the American Legion
21 National Commander, James W. "Bill" Oxford, to the great State
22 of Alabama.

