



General Assembly

**Substitute Joint
Resolution No. 3**

January Session, 2019



**RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO RECOGNIZE
WOMEN IN THE CADET NURSE CORPS DURING WORLD WAR II AS
VETERANS.**

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 WHEREAS, after the United States entered World War II, the
2 demand for nurses increased dramatically, outstripping supply and
3 creating a nursing shortage; and

4 WHEREAS, in order to alleviate this critical shortage, a plan was
5 conceived to accelerate the training of nursing students and allow such
6 nursing students to serve during such training; and

7 WHEREAS, on March 29, 1943, Congresswoman Frances P. Bolton
8 of Ohio introduced a bill in the United States House of Representatives
9 to establish a special government program to facilitate the training of
10 nurses, which bill was passed unanimously by both chambers of
11 Congress, was signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on
12 June 15, 1943, and became effective as Public Law 74 on July 1, 1943;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the Bolton Act of 1943 created the Cadet Nurse Corps to
15 be administered by the United States Public Health Service and
16 supervised by the Division of Nurse Education, which division
17 reported to the Surgeon General of the United States; and

18 WHEREAS, over one thousand nursing schools throughout the
19 United States joined the Cadet Nurse program during its existence,
20 facilitating the training of over 125,000 nurses during World War II
21 and greatly increasing the wartime supply of nurses and care for
22 American citizens on both the home and war fronts; and

23 WHEREAS, by replacing graduate nurses who had already entered
24 into active duty in the armed forces of the United States, the Cadet
25 Nurse Corps prevented the collapse of nursing care in hospitals
26 throughout the United States and service members returned from war
27 to a strong health care system and received necessary and quality care
28 from Cadet Nurses; and

29 WHEREAS, having demonstrated their skill, devotion and
30 patriotism, members of the United States Cadet Nurse Corps deserve
31 the utmost admiration and appreciation of the nation; and

32 WHEREAS, a former member of the Cadet Nurse Corps is not
33 included in the United States government's definition of what
34 constitutes a "veteran", and accordingly such former member is not
35 eligible to receive certain veterans' benefits administered by the United
36 States Department of Veterans Affairs and other federal agencies; and

37 WHEREAS, recognizing former members of the Cadet Nurse Corps
38 as veterans would be an appropriate and warranted gesture of
39 commendation and gratitude to women whose service and dedication
40 to their communities and to their nation deserves such a gesture.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut
42 General Assembly hereby petitions the United States Congress to
43 amend federal law to recognize as veterans those women who served
44 honorably during World War II as members of the Cadet Nurse Corps;
45 and

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerks of the House of
47 Representatives and the Senate cause a copy of this resolution be
48 transmitted to the Speaker of the United States House of

49 Representatives, the President of the United States Senate and all
50 members of the Connecticut congressional delegation.

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

At the end of the resolution, the paragraph beginning with the phrase "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED" was added for consistency with standard drafting conventions.

VA *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*