
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 198 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY MASTRIANO, ROBINSON, STREET, PHILLIPS-HILL,
ARGALL, BROWNE, BROOKS, LAUGHLIN, VOGEL, MENSCH, FONTANA,
SCAVELLO, MUTH, SCHWANK, PITTMAN, J. WARD, HUTCHINSON AND
STEFANO, OCTOBER 25, 2021

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, OCTOBER 25, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2021 as "Pennsylvania
2 Afghanistan War Veterans Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, On August 31, 2021, the United States and its Allies
4 concluded operations in Afghanistan after 20 years; and

5 WHEREAS, The estimated direct war deaths in Afghanistan and
6 Pakistan from October 2001 through August 2021 is approximately
7 243,000 lives lost, including approximately 2,461 members of the
8 United States Armed Forces, 95 of whom were Pennsylvanians; and

9 WHEREAS, Tens of thousands of Pennsylvanians served in
10 Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and the
11 International Security Assistance Force; and

12 WHEREAS, These heroic men and women held the line for 20
13 years in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist
14 attacks, and by their vigilance, defended our nation; and

15 WHEREAS, In this effort, 95 of Pennsylvania's best and
16 brightest gave the last full measure of devotion during combat:

17 Sgt. Jan M. Argonish, United States Army, from Peckville

1 Master Sgt. Scott R. Ball, United States Army, from Mount
2 Holly
3 Staff Sgt. Thomas A. Baysore Jr., United States Army,
4 from Milton
5 Senior Airman Bryan R. Bell, United States Air Force,
6 from Erie
7 Airman 1st Class Austin Gates Benson, United States Air
8 Force, from Hellertown
9 Lt. Col. Richard J. Berrettini, United States Army
10 National Guard, from Wilcox
11 Master Sgt. Benjamin F. Bitner, United States Army, from
12 Greencastle
13 Capt. David A. Boris, United States Army, from Pottsville
14 Capt. Michael C. Braden, United States Army, from Lock
15 Haven
16 Pvt. Matthew W. Brown, United States Army, from
17 Zelienople
18 Sgt. Douglas J. Bull, United States Army, from Wilkes-
19 Barre
20 Sgt. Joseph D. Caskey, United States Marines, from
21 Pittsburgh
22 Special Warfare Operator 1st Class Nicolas D. Checque,
23 United States Navy, from Monroeville
24 1st Lt. Jeffrey F. Deprimo, United States Army, from
25 Pittston
26 Pfc. James R. Dillon Jr., United States Marine Reserve,
27 from Grove City
28 Pfc. Michael R. Dinterman, United States Army, from
29 Littlestown
30 Staff Sgt. Patrick R. Dolphin, United States Marines,

1 from Moscow
2 Staff Sgt. Dylan J. Elchin, United States Air Force, from
3 Hookstown
4 Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth B. Elwell, United States Army,
5 from Holland
6 Staff Sergeant Troy S. Ezernack, United States Army, from
7 Lancaster
8 Lance Corporal Ralph J. Fabbri, United States Marines,
9 from Gallitzin
10 Specialist Louis R. Fastuca, United States Army, from
11 West Chester
12 Sgt. 1st Class Robert Fike, United States Army National
13 Guard, from Conneautville
14 Staff Sergeant Sean M. Flannery, United States Army, from
15 Wyomissing
16 Sergeant James F. Fordyce, United States Marines, from
17 Newton Square
18 Petty Officer 3rd Class John T. Fralish, United States
19 Navy, from New Kingston
20 Lance Corporal Michael L. Freeman Jr., United States
21 Marines, from Fayetteville
22 1st Lieutenant Demetrius M. Frison, United States Army,
23 from Lancaster
24 Sergeant Joseph M. Garrison, United States Marines, from
25 New Bethlehem
26 Sergeant Christopher P. Geiger, United States Army
27 National Guard, from Allentown
28 2nd Lieutenant Michael R. Girdano, United States Army,
29 from Apollo
30 Cpl. Joshua A. Harton, United States Army, from Bethlehem

1 Sgt. Patrick C. Hawkins, United States Army, from
2 Carlisle

3 Sgt. Michael W. Heede Jr., United States Marines, from
4 Delta

5 Spc. Brett M. Hershey, United States Army National Guard,
6 from Conneautville

7 Sgt. Benjamin Hines, United States Marine Reserve, from
8 York

9 Sfc. Derek D. Holland, United States Army National Guard,
10 from Wind Gap

11 Staff Sgt. Eric S. Holman, United States Army, from Evans
12 City

13 Staff Sgt. Bryan A. Hoover, United States Army National
14 Guard, from Elizabeth

15 Lance Cpl. Abram L. Howard, United States Marine Reserve,
16 from Williamsport

17 Staff Sgt. Matthew N. Ingham, United States Marines, from
18 Altoona

19 Pfc. David A. Jefferson, United States Army, from
20 Philadelphia

21 Lance Cpl. Larry M. Johnson, United States Marines, from
22 Scranton

23 Capt. Jason B. Jones, United States Army, from Orwigsburg

24 Sgt. Nathan P. Kennedy, United States Army, from
25 Claysville

26 Pfc. John F. Kihm, United States Army, from Philadelphia

27 Spc. Jarrid L. King, United States Army, from Erie

28 Sgt. Edward W. Koehler, United States Army National
29 Guard, from Lebanon

30 Spc. Dale J. Kridlo, United States Army, from Hughestown

1 Pfc. Serge Kropov, United States Marines, from Hawley
2 Staff Sgt. Patrick F. Kutschbach, United States Army,
3 from McKees Rocks
4 Sgt. Ryan H. Lane, United States Marines, from Pittsburgh
5 Master Sgt. Arthur L. Lilley, United States Army, from
6 Smithfield
7 Sfc. Jonathon L. Luscher, United States Army, from
8 Scranton
9 Master Sgt. Thomas D. Maholic, United States Army, from
10 Bradford
11 Sgt. Jason Mitchell McClary, United States Army, from
12 Export
13 Sgt. Jonathan E. McColley, United States Marines, from
14 Gettysburg
15 Sgt. Andrew H. McConnell, United States Army, from
16 Carlisle
17 Pfc. Joshua Mikeasky, United States Army, from Johnstown
18 Staff Sgt. Edward D. Mills, United States Army, from New
19 Castle
20 Staff Sgt. Brian K. Mowery, United States Army National
21 Guard, from Halifax
22 Staff Sgt. Brandon R. Pepper, United States Army, from
23 York
24 Cmdr. Job W. Price, United States Navy, from Pottstown
25 Staff Sgt. Patrick H. Quinn, United States Army, from
26 Quarryville
27 1st Sgt. Christopher C. Rafferty, United States Army,
28 from Brownsville
29 Lt. Col. Christopher K. Raible, United States Marines,
30 from North Huntingdon

1 Spc. Jesse D. Reed, United States Army, from Orefield
2 Sgt. Joshua J. Rimer, United States Army, from Rochester
3 Chief Warrant Officer 3 Matthew P. Ruffner, United States
4 Army National Guard, from Tafford
5 Gunnery Sgt. Justin E. Schmalstieg, United States
6 Marines, from Pittsburgh
7 Sgt. Derek L. Shanfield, United States Marines, from
8 Hastings
9 Sgt. 1st Class Michael P. Shannon, United States Army,
10 from Canadensis
11 Sgt. Robert C. Sisson Jr., United States Army, from
12 Aliquippa
13 Chief Warrant Officer 4 Michael Slebodnik, United States
14 Army, from Gibsonia
15 Staff Sgt. Marc J. Small, United States Army, from
16 Conneautville
17 Pfc. Cameron J. Stambaugh, United States Army, from
18 Spring Grove
19 Staff Sgt. Glen H. Stivison Jr., United States Army, from
20 Blairsville
21 Cryptologist Technician (Collection) Petty Officer 1st
22 Class (Expeditionary Warfare Specialist) Michael J. Strange,
23 United States Navy, from Philadelphia
24 Pfc. Brandon M. Styer, United States Army, from Lancaster
25 Staff Sgt. Paul A. Sweeney, United States Army, from
26 Lakeville
27 Staff Sgt. Peter W. Taub, United States Air Force, from
28 Philadelphia
29 Staff Sgt. Richard J. Tieman, United States Army, from
30 Waynesboro

1 Cpl. Eric M. Torbert Jr., United States Marines, from
2 Lancaster

3 Lance Cpl. Joshua T. Twigg, United States Marines, from
4 Indiana

5 Staff Sgt. Kenneth R. VanGiesen, United States Army
6 National Guard, from Erie

7 Spc. Anthony Vargas, United States Army, from Reading

8 Staff Sgt. William D. Vile, United States Army, from
9 Philadelphia

10 Sgt. David W. Wallace III, United States Marines, from
11 Sharpsville

12 Cpl. Jonathan M. Walls, United States Army, from West
13 Lawn

14 Staff Sgt. Dave J. Weigle, United States Army, from
15 Philadelphia

16 Cpl. Anthony L. Williams, United States Marines, from
17 Oxford

18 Capt. Bryan D. Willard, United States Marines, from
19 Hummelstown

20 Sgt. Christopher M. Wrinkle, United States Marines, from
21 Dallastown

22 Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jarett M. Yoder, United States
23 Army National Guard, from Mohnton

24 Tech. Sgt. Daniel L. Zerbe, United States Air Force, from
25 York;

26 and

27 WHEREAS, It is important that we pause and remember the
28 Pennsylvania veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice and those
29 who were wounded and now wear the scars after having given their
30 all in America's longest war; and

1 WHEREAS, The bravery and sacrifices of the members of the
2 United States Armed Forces in combating terrorism, freeing the
3 Afghan people from oppression and preserving international peace
4 and security should be recognized and honored; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of October 2021
6 as "Pennsylvania Afghanistan War Veterans Month" in Pennsylvania
7 in tribute to our Afghanistan War veterans.