

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 101

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1  
2 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND SUPPORTING AND COMMENDING THE IDAHO  
3 DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, ITS LEGIONNAIRES AND LEGION AUXIL-  
4 IARY IN ITS VOLUNTEER EFFORTS TO SERVE THE YOUTH OF IDAHO THROUGH ALL  
5 OF ITS YOUTH PROGRAMS AND DESIGNATING THE SECOND THURSDAY IN JANUARY OF  
6 EACH YEAR AS AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY YOUTH PROGRAMS DAY IN IDAHO.

7 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 WHEREAS, the American Legion is the largest national veterans organi-  
9 zation in the United States, with membership of 2.4 million men and women  
10 who have served their country in time of armed conflict, and is dedicated to  
11 serving the needs of all veterans by advocating for and supporting veteran  
12 benefits owed by a grateful nation to those who have served to defend liberty  
13 and freedom; and

14 WHEREAS, the American Legion Family Americanism Commission promotes an  
15 understanding and appreciation of American government, the rights and re-  
16 sponsibilities of American citizenship and activity in the American way of  
17 life through youth activities, community service, instruction of prospec-  
18 tive citizens and legal immigrants, education and educational facilities,  
19 and protection of the United States flag from physical desecration; and

20 WHEREAS, the American Legion youth programs under the Americanism Com-  
21 mission annually conduct Gem Boys State, sponsor Legion baseball, conduct  
22 Legion oratorical contests, award Legion scholarships, sponsor Boy and Girl  
23 Scout troops and support other specialized youth programs benefiting young  
24 men and women in Idaho; and

25 WHEREAS, the American Legion Auxiliary youth programs under the Amer-  
26 icanism Commission annually conduct Syringa Girls State and support other  
27 specialized youth programs benefiting young women in Idaho; and

28 WHEREAS, the Department of Idaho American Legion and American Legion  
29 Auxiliary organize and direct Idaho Legionnaires and Legion Auxiliary mem-  
30 bers in Legion posts across the state of Idaho to volunteer their time and  
31 energy to conduct and support these programs to engage more current and fu-  
32 ture generations of Idaho youth; and

33 WHEREAS, the Department of Idaho American Legion and Legion Auxiliary  
34 have recently formed a youth programs committee for the purpose of raising  
35 public awareness of American Legion Family youth programs and directly so-  
36 liciting donations from Idaho corporations, corporate foundations, private  
37 foundations, associations, trade groups, nonprofit organizations and other  
38 entities interested in partnering with the Idaho American Legion and Legion  
39 Auxiliary to expand and enhance these youth programs in Idaho while promot-  
40 ing student, parent, educator and guidance counselor awareness of their ben-  
41 efits; and

42 WHEREAS, the State of Idaho currently supports the Gem Boys State and  
43 Syringa Girls State programs through access to the Idaho State Capitol dur-

1 ing these weeklong government-in-action programs, reflecting how such pro-  
2 grams benefit the State of Idaho both socially and economically through cit-  
3 izenship and government; and

4 WHEREAS, many members of the Idaho Legislature participated in and were  
5 personally impacted by American Legion youth programs while growing up in  
6 Idaho, including Gem Boys Staters and Syringa Girls Staters; and

7 WHEREAS, the State of Idaho benefits both socially and economically  
8 from better-informed youth regarding citizenship and government.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular  
10 Session of the Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of  
11 Representatives concurring therein, that the Idaho Legislature enthusias-  
12 tically supports and commends the Department of Idaho American Legion, its  
13 Legionnaires and Legion Auxiliary in their volunteer efforts to serve the  
14 youth of Idaho through all of their youth programs; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Idaho Legislature strongly supports  
16 awareness of American Legion Family youth programs and encourages its mem-  
17 bers to promote both awareness and benefits to students, parents, educators,  
18 guidance counselors, community and civic leaders in their legislative dis-  
19 tricts; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Idaho Legislature encourages Idaho cor-  
21 porations, corporate foundations, private foundations, associations, trade  
22 groups, nonprofit organizations and other entities to partner with the Idaho  
23 American Legion Family through annual donations to expand and enhance these  
24 youth programs for the benefit of the youth of Idaho and, in turn, the State  
25 of Idaho; and

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Idaho Legislature declares the second  
27 Thursday of each January, to coincide with the convening of the state leg-  
28 islative session and annual winter meeting of the Department of Idaho Amer-  
29 ican Legion, to be designated American Legion Family Youth Programs Day in  
30 Idaho.