

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 1339

AN ACT

To designate the City of Salem, Massachusetts, as the
Birthplace of the National Guard of the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF SALEM, MASSA-**
2 **CHUSETTS, AS THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE NA-**
3 **TIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
5 ings:

6 (1) In 1629, Captain John Endicott organized
7 the first militia in the Massachusetts Bay Colony in
8 Salem.

9 (2) The colonists had adopted the English mili-
10 tia system, which required all males between the
11 ages of 16 and 60 to possess arms and participate
12 in the defense of the community.

13 (3) In 1636, the Massachusetts General Court
14 ordered the organization of three militia regiments,
15 designated as the North, South, and East regiments.

16 (4) These regiments drilled once a week and
17 provided guard details each evening to sound the
18 alarm in case of attack.

19 (5) The East Regiment, the predecessor of the
20 101st Engineer Battalion, assembled as a regiment
21 for the first time in 1637 on the Salem Common,
22 marking the beginning of the Massachusetts Na-
23 tional Guard and the National Guard of the United
24 States.

1 (6) Since 1785, Salem's own Second Corps of
2 Cadets (101st and 102nd Field Artillery) has cele-
3 brated the anniversary of that first muster.

4 (7) As the policy contained in section 102 of
5 title 32, United States Code, clearly expresses, the
6 National Guard continues its historic mission of pro-
7 viding units for the first line defense of the United
8 States and current missions throughout the world.

9 (8) The designation of the City of Salem, Mas-
10 sachusetts, as the Birthplace of the National Guard
11 of the United States will contribute positively to
12 tourism and economic development in the city, create
13 jobs, and instill pride in both the local and State
14 communities.

15 (b) DESIGNATION OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS, AS
16 NATIONAL GUARD BIRTHPLACE.—In light of the findings
17 made in subsection (a), the City of Salem, Massachusetts,
18 is hereby designated as the Birthplace of the National
19 Guard of the United States.

20 (c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—

21 (1) MILITARY CEREMONIAL SUPPORT.—The
22 Chief of the National Guard Bureau, in conjunction
23 with the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the
24 Air Force, the Council of Governors, and the Adju-
25 tant General of the State of Massachusetts, shall

1 provide military ceremonial support at the dedication
2 of any monument, plaque, or other form of official
3 recognition placed in Salem, Massachusetts, cele-
4 brating the designation of Salem, Massachusetts, as
5 the Birthplace of the National Guard of the United
6 States.

7 (2) FUNDING SOURCE.—Federal funds may not
8 be used to design, procure, prepare, install, or main-
9 tain any monument, plaque, or other form of official
10 recognition placed in Salem, Massachusetts, cele-
11 brating the designation of Salem, Massachusetts, as
12 the Birthplace of the National Guard of the United
13 States, but the Adjutant General of the State of
14 Massachusetts may accept and expend contributions
15 of non-Federal funds for this purpose.

Passed the House of Representatives March 28,
2012.

Attest:

Clerk.

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