

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1339

To amend title 32, United States Code, the body of laws of the United States dealing with the National Guard, to recognize the City of Salem, Massachusetts, as the Birthplace of the National Guard of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2011

Mr. TIERNEY (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. NEAL, Mr. OLVER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. TSONGAS, and Mr. KEATING) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 32, United States Code, the body of laws of the United States dealing with the National Guard, to recognize 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,*

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

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
7 ings:

1 (1) In 1629, Captain John Endicott organized
2 the first militia in the Massachusetts Bay Colony in
3 Salem.

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

8 (3) In 1636, the Massachusetts General Court
9 ordered the organization of three militia regiments,
10 designated as the North, South, and East regiments.

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

14 (5) The East Regiment, the predecessor of the
15 101st Engineer Battalion, assembled as a regiment
16 for the first time in 1637 on the Salem Common,
17 marking the beginning of the Massachusetts Na-
18 tional Guard and the National Guard of the United
19 States.

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

23 (7) As the policy contained in section 102 of
24 title 32, United States Code, clearly expresses, the
25 National Guard continues its historic mission of pro-

1 viding units for the first line defense of the United
2 States and current missions throughout the world.

3 (8) The designation of the City of Salem, Mas-
4 sachusetts, as the Birthplace of the National Guard
5 of the United States will contribute positively to
6 tourism and economic development in the city, create
7 jobs, and instill pride in both the local and State
8 communities.

9 (b) RECOGNITION.—Section 102 of title 32, United
10 States Code, is amended—

11 (1) by striking “In accordance” and inserting
12 “(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—In accordance”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
14 section:

15 “(b) RECOGNITION OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS, AS
16 NATIONAL GUARD BIRTHPLACE.—The City of Salem,
17 Massachusetts, the site of the first muster of a militia
18 regiment in 1637 in what became the United States, is
19 hereby recognized as the Birthplace of the National Guard
20 of the United States.”.

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