

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 130

Honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Mary Edwards Walker.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 14, 2025

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Ms. COLLINS)
submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Mary Edwards Walker.

Whereas, on November 26, 1832, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker
(referred to in this preamble as “Dr. Walker”) was born
in the town of Oswego, New York;

Whereas, at the start of the Civil War, Dr. Walker decided
to serve as an unpaid volunteer surgeon at the United
States Patent Office Hospital in Washington, DC, as she
was not allowed to serve in the Army as a medical officer
because she was a woman;

Whereas, in 1862, Dr. Walker moved to the Commonwealth
of Virginia and started treating wounded soldiers near
the front lines at Fredericksburg and Chattanooga, Ten-
nessee;

Whereas, during her work as a surgeon in the war, Dr. Walker often crossed battle lines to care for soldiers and civilians;

Whereas, in September 1864, Dr. Walker was contracted as the assistant surgeon of the Ohio 52nd Infantry, becoming the first female surgeon in the Army;

Whereas Dr. Walker served at the Louisville Women's Prison Hospital and at an orphan asylum in Clarksville, Tennessee;

Whereas, after the conclusion of the Civil War in 1865, Dr. Walker was awarded the Medal of Honor for Meritorious Service by President Andrew Johnson; and

Whereas Dr. Walker continued to advocate for women's rights, including promoting dress reform and pushing for women's suffrage, believing strongly in the power of self-determination and equality between men and women: Now, therefore be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) honors the life and legacy of Dr. Mary
3 Edwards Walker, recognizing her as a trailblazer in
4 medicine, a champion for women's rights, and a true
5 United States hero who exemplified the ideals of
6 service, courage, and resilience; and

7 (2) commits to ensuring the story of Dr. Mary
8 Edwards Walker is remembered and celebrated for
9 generations to come, inspiring others to follow in her
10 footsteps in pursuit of justice and equality.

