

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-fourth Legislature
First Regular Session
2019

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1002

A JOINT RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING A PORTION OF UNITED STATES ROUTE 89 AS THE "NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS HIGHWAY", PORTIONS OF STATE HIGHWAY 264 AS THE "NAVAJO CODE TALKER HIGHWAY" AND THE "HOPI CODE TALKER HIGHWAY" AND A PORTION OF UNITED STATES ROUTE 160 AS THE "NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN VETERANS HIGHWAY" IN HONOR OF NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, Native Americans have served with honor and distinction in
2 the United States armed forces and have defended the United States of
3 America for more than two hundred years; and

4 Whereas, Native Americans have served in wars involving the United
5 States from Valley Forge to the hostilities in Afghanistan and Iraq; and

6 Whereas, Native Americans have served in the armed forces with the
7 highest record of military service of any group in the United States; and

8 Whereas, the Navajo Marine Corps radio operators, who became known
9 as the "Navajo Code Talkers," developed an unbreakable code using their
10 native language to communicate military messages and created a dictionary
11 and numerous words for military terms that did not exist in Navajo; and

12 Whereas, ten Hopi men developed a code language that they used to
13 assist United States army intelligence in the Marshall Islands,
14 New Caledonia and the Philippines during World War II; and

15 Whereas, the Native American Code Talkers distinguished themselves
16 in performing a unique, highly successful communications operation that
17 saved countless lives and hastened the end of World War II in the Pacific;
18 and

19 Whereas, fourteen Native American women served in the Army Nurse
20 Corps during World War I; and

21 Whereas, 800 Native American women served in the military from 1941
22 to 1945; and

23 Whereas, nearly 3,900 among 1.4 million active duty military are
24 Native American women; and

25 Whereas, the courage, determination and fighting spirit of Native
26 American men and women have strengthened and continue to strengthen the
27 United States, including the United States armed forces; and

28 Whereas, Native Americans have made the ultimate sacrifice in
29 defense of the United States, even in times when Native Americans were not
30 citizens of the United States; and

31 Whereas, Native American veterans have performed an important
32 service to the preservation of democracy, and they are deserving of
33 continuing recognition for their efforts.

34 Therefore

35 Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

36 1. That, notwithstanding section 41-836, Arizona Revised Statutes:

37 (a) The portion of United States Route 89 that is located between
38 the Utah state line and Flagstaff be designated the "Native American
39 Veterans Highway".

40 (b) The portions of State Highway 264 that fall under Navajo
41 jurisdiction be designated the "Navajo Code Talker Highway" and the
42 portions that fall under Hopi jurisdiction be designated the "Hopi Code
43 Talker Highway".

1 (c) The portion of United States Route 160 that is located between
2 the New Mexico state line and the junction of United States Route 89 be
3 designated the "Native American Women Veterans Highway".

4 2. That the Arizona Department of Transportation approve, place and
5 maintain appropriate signage to identify the highways.

6 3. That the Secretary of State transmit copies of this Joint
7 Resolution to the Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation,
8 the President of the Navajo Nation and the Chairperson of the Hopi Tribe.