



SR0424

LRB104 15249 MST 28399 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, General John A. Logan, born in Jackson County on February 9, 1826, rose to national prominence as a courageous leader, serving with distinction as a major general in the Union Army during the American Civil War, earning the respect of his troops and fellow commanders for his courage, strategic brilliance, and unwavering commitment to the preservation of the United States; and

9

WHEREAS, Gen. Logan's early political career reflected the divided sentiments of a nation in turmoil, yet his personal journey stands as a testament to the power of growth and conviction, transforming from a defender of slavery to a passionate advocate for the Union and equal rights; and

14

WHEREAS, Gen. Logan's evolution was not merely political, but deeply moral, embodied in his wartime leadership, post-war advocacy for veterans, and commitment to civil liberties and education as a U.S. senator from Illinois; and

18

WHEREAS, Gen. Logan's most enduring legacy as commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) is the nationalization of Memorial Day through the issuance of General Order No. 11 in 1868, establishing a national tradition of honoring those who gave their lives in service to

1 the country; and

2 WHEREAS, Gen. Logan's leadership, both on the battlefield
3 and in public service, exemplifies a lifelong commitment to
4 unity, justice, and national healing in the aftermath of the
5 Civil War, and his life story serves as a beacon of hope and a
6 powerful reminder that personal transformation can inspire
7 national progress; and

8 WHEREAS, The year 2026 marks the 200th anniversary of the
9 birth of Gen. Logan, Civil War hero, statesman, and founder of
10 Memorial Day, and coincides with America 250, the nation's
11 semiquincentennial celebration, offering a powerful
12 opportunity to reflect on his enduring legacy and the values
13 that have shaped the United States for nearly two and a half
14 centuries; and

15 WHEREAS, Gen. Logan's contributions remain deeply relevant
16 today, preserved and shared through museums, veterans'
17 organizations, and civic institutions dedicated to honoring
18 service, sacrifice, and historical memory, including the
19 General John A. Logan Museum, which continues to steward his
20 legacy and inspire future generations to reflect on the
21 enduring values of courage, justice, and the capacity for
22 change; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare 2026 as the
3 Year of General John A. Logan in the State of Illinois,
4 coinciding with the America 250 celebration, and we recognize
5 the life and legacy of General John A. Logan, not only for his
6 military and civic achievements, but for his remarkable
7 journey of enlightenment and his enduring impact on the
8 American conscience; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That we encourage educational programs,
10 commemorative events, and public reflection on the legacy of a
11 man whose life helped shape the soul of a nation.