

86<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6420

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 15, 1959

Mr. FOGARTY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

---

## A BILL

To provide for the incorporation of the National Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, organized 1883, seventy-six years old.

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

3        That the following persons, to wit:

4        President: Elizabeth Jeans, Saint Louis, Missouri;

5        Senior vice president: Nancy Pomeroy, Topeka, Kansas;

6        Junior vice president: Jessie Johnston, Cheyenne, Wyo-  
7        ming;

8        Secretary: Bessie K. Coughlin, East Providence, Rhode  
9        Island;

1       Treasurer: Ocie M. Tumey, Springfield, Illinois, execu-  
2       tive officers;

3       Legislative committee: Laura I. Smith, chairman, 16  
4       Temple Street, Providence, Rhode Island; Ethel Ferris  
5       Hasenbuhler, Washington, District of Columbia; and Grayce  
6       L. Vedetta, Brooklyn, New York;

7       Past national presidents: Cora M. Davis, Nehalem,  
8       Oregon; Catherine McBride Hoster, Indianapolis, Indiana;  
9       Emma W. Campbell, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Annie Poole  
10      Atwood, Wollaston, Massachusetts; Beatrice J. Tyson,  
11      DeBary, Florida; Lizetta Coady, Detroit, Michigan; Many  
12      J. Love, Louisville, Kentucky; Ida Heacock Baker, Parsons,  
13      Kansas; Elizabeth L. Kothe, Parkersburg, Iowa; Grace  
14      Houlette Hahn, Miami, Florida; Louise Haider, Santa  
15      Barbara, California; Anne Anschutz, Saint Louise, Missouri;  
16      Laura I. Smith, Providence, Rhode Island; Alice F. Larson,  
17      Minot, North Dakota; Grayce L. Vedetta, Brooklyn, New  
18      York;

19      Harriette G. McCullough, Des Moines, Iowa; Eula M.  
20      Nelson, Springfield, Illinois; Daisy Heinemann, Milwaukee,  
21      Wisconsin; Grace L. Johnson, Toledo, Ohio; Ruth E. John-  
22      son, Bellflower, California; Lucille V. Rand, Worcester,  
23      Massachusetts; Gertrude M. Edwards, Iroquois, South  
24      Dakota, and Bessie K. Coughlin, East Providence, Rhode  
25      Island, and their successors, are hereby created and declared

1 to be a body corporate of the District of Columbia, where its  
2 legal domicile shall be, by the name of the National Woman's  
3 Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic  
4 (hereafter referred to as the corporation), and by such name  
5 shall be known and have perpetual succession and the powers,  
6 limitations and restrictions herein contained.

7 SEC. 2. A majority of the persons named in the first  
8 section of this Act, acting in person or by written proxy,  
9 are authorized to complete the organization of the corpora-  
10 tion by the selection of officers, the adoption of a constitu-  
11 tion and bylaws not inconsistent with this Act, and the  
12 doing of such other acts as may be necessary for such  
13 purpose.

14 SEC. 3. The purposes of the corporation shall be: To  
15 perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic,  
16 as we the National Woman's Relief Corps are their auxiliary  
17 and were organized at their request in 1883, and of men who  
18 saved the Union in 1861 to 1865; to assist in every practica-  
19 ble way in the preservation; and making available for re-  
20 search of documents and records pertaining to the Grand  
21 Army of the Republic and its members; to cooperate in doing  
22 honor to all those who have patriotically served our country  
23 in any war; to teach patriotism and the duties of citizenship,  
24 the true history of our country, and the love and honor of our  
25 flag; to oppose every tendency or movement that would

1 weaken loyalty to, or make for the destruction or impair-  
2 ment of, our constitutional Union, and to inculcate and  
3 broadly sustain the American principles of representative  
4 government, of equal rights and of impartial justice for all.

5 SEC. 4. The corporation shall have power—

6 (1) to have succession by its corporate name;

7 (2) to sue and be sued, complain and defend in  
8 any court of competent jurisdiction;

9 (3) to adopt, use, and alter a corporate seal;

10 (4) to choose such officers, as the corporation may  
11 require;

12 (5) to adopt, amend, and alter a constitution and  
13 bylaws; not inconsistent with the laws of the United  
14 States or any State in which the corporation is to op-  
15 erate, for the management of its property and the  
16 regulation of its affairs;

17 (6) to contract and be contracted with;

18 (7) to take by lease, gift, purchase, grants, devise,  
19 or bequest from any public body or agency or any pri-  
20 vate corporation, association, partnership, firm, or in-  
21 dividual and to hold absolutely or in trust for any of the  
22 purposes of the corporation any property, real, per-  
23 sonal, or mixed, necessary or convenient for attaining  
24 the objects and carrying into effect the purposes of the  
25 corporation, subject, however, to applicable provisions

1 of law of any State, (A) governing the amount or  
2 kind of property which may be held by, or (B) other-  
3 wise limiting or controlling the ownership of property  
4 by, a corporation operating in such State; and

5 (8) to transfer, convey, lease, sublease, encumber,  
6 and otherwise alienate real, personal, or mixed prop-  
7 erty.

8 SEC. 5. Eligibility for membership in the corporation  
9 and the rights, privileges, and designation of classes of  
10 members shall, except as provided in this Act, be determined  
11 as the constitution and bylaws of the corporation may pro-  
12 vide. Eligibility for membership in the corporation shall be  
13 women, who are the wives, mothers, daughters, and sisters  
14 of Union soldiers, sailors, and marines and other loyal  
15 women, who have not given aid or comfort to the enemies  
16 of the United States of America.

17 SEC. 6. The supreme governing authority of the cor-  
18 poration shall be the national convention thereof, composed  
19 of such officers and elected representatives from the several  
20 States as shall be provided by the rules and regulations.  
21 *Provided*, That the form of the government of the corpora-  
22 tion shall always be representative of the membership at  
23 large and shall not permit the concentration of the control  
24 thereof in the hands of a limited number of members or in

1 a self-perpetuating group not so representative. The meet-  
2 ings of the national convention may be held in any State or  
3 Territory or in the District of Columbia.

4 SEC. 7. (a) During the intervals between the national  
5 convention the executive officers shall be the governing  
6 board of the corporation and shall be held responsible for  
7 the general policies, program and activities of the corpora-  
8 tion.

9 (b) Upon the enactment of this Act the membership  
10 of the initial executive officers of the corporation shall con-  
11 sist of the executive officers of the National Woman's Relief  
12 Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, the  
13 corporation described in section 18 of this Act, or such of  
14 them as may then be living and are qualified members of  
15 said executive officers, to wit: Elizabeth Jeans, Nancy Pom-  
16 eroy, Jessie Johnston, Bessie K. Coughlin, Ocie M. Tumey,  
17 Mary J. Love, Laura I. Smith, Ethel Ferris Hasenbuhler,  
18 and Grayce L. Vedetta.

19 (c) Thereafter, the council of administration of the cor-  
20 poration shall consist of not less than seven members elected  
21 in the manner and for the term as may be prescribed in the  
22 constitution and bylaws of the corporation.

23 SEC. 8. The officers of the corporation shall be a na-  
24 tional president, senior vice national president, junior vice  
25 national president, secretary and treasurer (which latter two

1 offices may be held by one person), and such other officers  
2 as may be prescribed in the constitution and bylaws. The  
3 officers of the corporation shall be selected in such manner  
4 and for such terms and with such duties and titles as may be  
5 prescribed in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation.

6 SEC. 9. (a) The principal office of the corporation shall  
7 be located in Springfield, Illinois, but the activities of the  
8 corporation shall not be confined to that place, but may be  
9 conducted throughout the various States, the District of  
10 Columbia, and Territories and possessions of the United  
11 States.

12 (b) The corporation shall have in the District of Colum-  
13 bia at all times a designated agent authorized to accept serv-  
14 ice of process for the corporation and notice to or service  
15 upon such agent shall be deemed notice to or service upon  
16 the corporation.

17 SEC. 10. (a) No part of the income or assets of the cor-  
18 poration shall inure to any of its members or officers as such,  
19 or be distributable to any of them, during the life of the  
20 corporation or upon its dissolution or final liquidation.  
21 Nothing in this subsection, however, shall be construed to  
22 prevent the payment of compensation to officers of the cor-  
23 poration or reimbursement for actual necessary expenses in  
24 amounts approved by the council of administration of the  
25 corporation.

1 (b) The corporation shall not make loans to its officers.  
2 Any member of the council of administration who votes  
3 for or assents to the making of a loan or advance to an  
4 officer or member of the corporation, and any officer who  
5 participates in the making of such a loan or advance, shall  
6 be jointly and severally liable to the corporation for the  
7 amount of such loan until the repayment thereof.

8 SEC. 11. The corporation and its officers and agents as  
9 such shall not contribute to or otherwise support or assist  
10 any political party or candidate for public office.

11 SEC. 12. The corporation shall be liable for the acts of  
12 its officers and agents when acting within the scope of their  
13 authority.

14 SEC. 13. The corporation shall have no power to issue  
15 any shares of stock or to declare or pay any dividends.

16 SEC. 14. The corporation shall keep correct and com-  
17 plete books and records of account and shall keep minutes  
18 of the proceedings of its national convention. All books and  
19 records of the corporation may be inspected by any member,  
20 or his agent or attorney, for any proper purpose at any  
21 reasonable time.

22 SEC. 15. (a) The financial transactions of the corpora-  
23 tion shall be audited annually by an independent certified  
24 public accountant in accordance with the principles and pro-  
25 cedures applicable to commercial corporate transactions.



1 The audit shall be conducted at the place or places where  
2 the accounts of the corporation are normally kept. All  
3 books, accounts, financial records, reports, files, and all other  
4 papers, things, or property belonging to or in use by the  
5 corporation and necessary to facilitate the audit shall be  
6 made available to the person or persons conducting the audit;  
7 and full facilities for verifying transactions with the balances  
8 or securities held by custodian shall be afforded to such per-  
9 son or persons.

10 (b) A report of such audit shall be made by the cor-  
11 poration to the Congress not later than March 1 of each year.

12 The report shall set forth the scope of the audit and shall  
13 include a verification by the person or persons conducting  
14 the audit of statements of (1) assets and liabilities, (2)  
15 capital and surplus or deficit, (3) surplus or deficit analysis,  
16 (4) income and expense, and (5) sources and application  
17 of funds. Such report shall not be printed as a public docu-  
18 ment.

19 SEC. 16. On or before March 1 of each year the cor-  
20 poration shall report to the Congress on its activities during  
21 the preceding fiscal year. Such report may consist of a  
22 report on the proceedings of the national convention cover-  
23 ing such fiscal year. Such report shall not be printed as a  
24 public document.

25 SEC. 17. The corporation and its subordinate corps shall

1 have the sole and exclusive right to use the name, the Na-  
2 tional Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army  
3 of the Republic. The corporation shall have the exclusive  
4 and sole right to use, or to allow or refuse the use of, such  
5 emblems, seals, and badges as have heretofore been used by  
6 the Illinois corporation described in section 18 and the right  
7 to which may be lawfully transferred to the corporation.

8       SEC. 18. The corporation may acquire the assets of the  
9 National Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand  
10 Army of the Republic, a corporation organized under the  
11 laws of the State of Illinois, upon discharging or satisfactorily  
12 providing for the payment and discharge of all the liability of  
13 such corporation and upon complying with all laws of the  
14 State of Illinois applicable thereto.

15       SEC. 19. Upon dissolution or final liquidation of the  
16 corporation, after discharge or satisfactory of all outstanding  
17 obligations and liabilities, the remaining assets, if any, of the  
18 corporation shall be distributed in accordance with the deter-  
19 mination of the council of administration and in compliance  
20 with the constitution and bylaws of the corporation, and all  
21 Federal and State laws applicable thereon.

22       SEC. 20. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act  
23 is expressly reserved.

86<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

**H. R. 6420**

---

---

# **A BILL**

To provide for the incorporation of the National Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, organized in 1883, seventy-six years old.

---

---

By Mr. FOGARTY

APRIL 15, 1959

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary