

87TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 7899

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 27, 1961

Mr. FOGARTY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia

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-eight 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: Mabel R. Ginder, Toledo, Ohio;

5 Senior vice president: Jessie Johnston, Cheyenne,
6 Wyoming;

7 Junior vice president: Irene Randolph, Minneapolis,
8 Minnesota;

9 Secretary: Bessie K. Coughlin, Providence, Rhode
10 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 Marie
6 Morgan, Indianapolis, Indiana;

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

18 Harriette G. McCullough, Des Moines, Iowa; Eula M.
19 Nelson, Springfield, Illinois; Daisy Heinemann, Milwaukee,
20 Wisconsin; Grace L. Johnson, Toledo, Ohio; Ruth E. John-
21 son, Bellflower, California; Lucille V. Rand, Worcester,
22 Massachusetts; Gertrude M. Edwards, Iroquois, South Da-
23 kota; Bessie K. Coughlin, Providence, Rhode Island; Eliza-
24 beth Jeans, Saint Louis, Missouri; and Josephine E. Park-
25 hurst, Pulaski, New York, and their successors, are hereby

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

8 SEC. 2. A majority of the persons named in the first
9 section of this Act, acting in person or by written proxy, are
10 authorized to complete the organization of the corporation
11 by the selection of officers, the adoption of a constitution and
12 bylaws not inconsistent with this Act, and the doing of such
13 other acts as may be necessary for such 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 practi-
19 cable 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
25 our flag; to oppose every tendency or movement that would

1 weaken loyalty to, or make for the destruction or impairment
2 of, our constitutional Union, and to inculcate and broadly
3 sustain the American principles of representative govern-
4 ment, 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 any
8 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 oper-
15 ate, for the management of its property and the regu-
16 lation 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 indi-
21 vidual and to hold absolutely or in trust for any of the
22 purposes of the corporation any property, real, personal,
23 or mixed, necessary or convenient for attaining the ob-
24 jects and carrying into effect the purposes of the corpora-
25 tion, subject, however, to applicable provisions of law

1 of any State, (A) governing the amount or kind of
2 property which may be held by, or (B) otherwise limit-
3 ing or controlling the ownership of property by, a cor-
4 poration operating in such State; and

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

7 SEC. 5. Eligibility for membership in the corporation
8 and the rights, privileges, and designation of classes of mem-
9 bers shall, except as provided in this Act, be determined as
10 the constitution and bylaws of the corporation may provide.

11 Eligibility for membership in the corporation shall be women,
12 who are the wives, mothers, daughters, and sisters of Union
13 soldiers, sailors, and marines, and other loyal women, who
14 have not given aid or comfort to the enemies of the United
15 States of America.

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

1 of the national convention may be held in any State or in the
2 District of Columbia.

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

7 (b) Upon the enactment of this Act the membership
8 of the initial executive officers of the corporation shall con-
9 sist of the executive officers of the National Woman's Relief
10 Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, the
11 corporation described in section 18 of this Act, or such of
12 them as may then be living and are qualified members of
13 said executive officers, to wit: Mabel R. Ginder, Jessie
14 Johnston, Irene Randolph, Bessie K. Coughlin, Ocie M.
15 Tumey, Mary J. Love, Laura I. Smith, Ethel Ferris Hasen-
16 buhler, and Marie Morgan.

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

21 SEC. 8. The officers of the corporation shall be a national
22 president, senior vice national president, junior vice national
23 president, secretary and treasurer (which latter two offices
24 may be held by one person), and such other officers as may
25 be prescribed in the constitution and bylaws. The officers

1 of the corporation shall be elected in such manner and for
2 such terms and with such duties and titles as may be pre-
3 scribed in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation.

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

9 (b) The corporation shall have in the District of
10 Columbia at all times a designated agent authorized to
11 accept service of process for the corporation and notice to
12 or service upon such agent shall be deemed notice to or
13 service upon the corporation.

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

23 (b) The corporation shall not make loans to the officers.
24 Any member of the council of administration, who votes
25 for or assents to the making of a loan or advance to an

1 officer or member of the corporation, and any officer who
2 participates in the making of such a loan or advance, shall
3 be jointly and severally liable to the corporation for the
4 amount of such loan until the repayment thereof.

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

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

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

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

19 SEC. 15. (a) The financial transactions of the corpora-
20 tion shall be audited annually by an independent certified
21 public accountant in accordance with the principles and pro-
22 cedures applicable to commercial corporate transactions.
23 The audit shall be conducted at the place or places where the
24 accounts of the corporation are normally kept. All books,
25 accounts, financial records, reports, files, and all other papers,

1 things, or property belonging to or in use by the corporation
2 and necessary to facilitate the audit shall be made available
3 to the person or persons conducting the audit; and full facili-
4 ties for verifying transactions with the balances or securities
5 held by custodian shall be afforded to such person or persons.

6 (b) A report of such audit shall be made by the corpora-
7 tion to the Congress not later than March 1 of each year.
8 The report shall set forth the scope of the audit and shall
9 include a verification by the person or persons conducting the
10 audit of statements of (1) assets and liabilities, (2) capital
11 and surplus or deficit, (3) surplus or deficit analysis, (4)
12 income and expense, and (5) sources and application of
13 funds. Such report shall not be printed as a public docu-
14 ment.

15 SEC. 16. On or before March 1 of each year the corpo-
16 ration shall report to the Congress on its activities during the
17 preceding fiscal year. Such report may consist of a report
18 on the proceedings of the national convention covering such
19 fiscal year. Such report shall not be printed as a public
20 document.

21 SEC. 17. The corporation and its subordinate corps shall
22 have the sole and exclusive right to use the name, the
23 National Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand
24 Army of the Republic. The corporation shall have the ex-
25 clusive and sole right to use, or to allow or refuse the use

1 of, such emblems, seals, and badges as have heretofore been
2 used by the Illinois corporation described in section 18 and
3 the right to which may be lawfully transferred to the cor-
4 poration.

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

12 SEC. 19. Upon dissolution or final liquidation of the
13 corporation, after discharge or satisfaction of all outstanding
14 obligations and liabilities, the remaining assets, if any, of
15 the corporation, shall be distributed in accordance with the
16 determination of the council of administration and in com-
17 pliance with the constitution and bylaws of the corporation,
18 and all Federal and State laws applicable thereon.

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

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