

# Patriotism In Action

*We believe every citizen should know...*

## Veterans Day started in Alabama in 1947

*Alabama can be a Top 5 U.S. destination for events and educational resources.*



General Dwight Eisenhower supported the program proposed on November 11, 1946  
**“National Veterans Day 1947”**  
 presented by Raymond Weeks, WWII veteran from Birmingham and Phenix City. President Eisenhower signed Veterans Day into law in 1954. Weeks served Veterans Day 40 years.

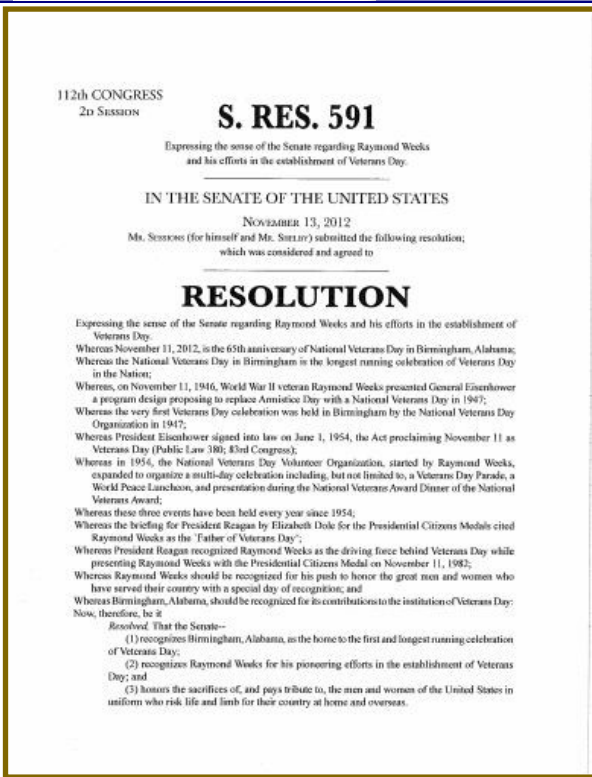
Patriotism in Action features

- ◆ how Veterans Day started in Alabama
- ◆ lessons on 10 character traits, and
- ◆ patriotic guide for students, teachers, and other patriotic citizens.

Cover: Reagan honors Weeks as the “driving force” for America’s Veterans Day presenting to him the Presidential Citizens Medal on November 11, 1982, in a national televised speech.



The Veterans Shrine at The American Village (Montevallo, Alabama) features key historical events on National Veterans Day, such as Weeks, Eisenhower, Reagan, and the U.S. Senate Resolution.



Senator Sessions called in November 2012 to share the good news, the U.S. Senate passed our proposed resolution, including:  
***Resolved by the United States Senate (the House...concurring) that Congress hereby recognizes Birmingham, Alabama, as home to the first and longest running celebration of Veterans Day.***

*Another state had claimed to have started Veterans Day in 1953, with Congressional approval, so Alabama and Weeks had lost their legacy. This official recognition in 2012 restored and confirmed one of Alabama’s most positive national contributions.*

### Character Traits Education

Alabama has character traits mandated to teach for 10 minutes daily, including our Pledge of Allegiance.

The founding of Veterans Day History supports at least 5 of the traits:  
***Patriotism – Courage – Perseverance – Loyalty – Citizenship***

We also recommend teaching these 5:  
***Freedom – Peace – Honor – Trust – Leadership***

Teachers of millions of students can teach “who, how, why, and where” the USA celebrates Veterans Day connecting history to character traits and citizenship. Teachers can inspire and guide students to act on their *Freedom to Flourish* by writing *Plans for School and Life* and using lessons learned on “patriotism, courage, perseverance, honor, and leadership.”

—America’s source for teacher resources: Troy University College of Education in cooperation with Life Leaders Institute—