







Eisenhower & Weeks

Poster

Book

U.S. Senate Resolution

## Veterans Day Programs in Alabama Proposed Improvement

to advance history and character traits
for America's National Veterans Day beginning in Alabama
so every citizen can know the who-when-where Veterans Day started
and inspire more students to think of how they can apply character traits patriotism, courage...\*

Call to Action to help our students and state: Alabama started America's national movement to honor veterans of all wars hosting the first National Veterans Day in 1947. Yet, most Americans, even Alabamians, do not know this state and national history. If we help schools, civic clubs, patriotic organizations, and government leaders share this often-missing history, we can inspire more students to know the history and internalize *patriotism*, *courage*, *and perseverance* like that needed to lead this movement. Also, we can brand Alabama better for leading this national movement and attract more people to visit our state for Veterans Day events and more.

#### Requested Message to open Veterans Day Programs (Paragraph Format)

America's first Veterans Day was organized in Alabama in 1947 by WWII veteran and former Alabama student, Raymond Weeks. Alabama led the national movement after gaining support in 1946 from General Eisenhower, who as president established the federal holiday in 1954. The National Veteran Award was established in Birmingham in 1954 and is presented annually. President Reagan honored Mr. Weeks with the Presidential Citizens Medal in 1982 at the White House during his Veterans Day televised address to the nation. The United States Senate passed a resolution in 2012 confirming the historical roots of starting Veterans Day in Alabama. The book <u>Patriotism in Action features the history of Veterans Day launched in Alabama and character traits demonstrated to inspire students (patriotism, courage, perseverance, loyalty, citizenship...). You can get complimentary resources to teach, speak, and promote this inspiring information at the web page, www.VeteransDayFoundingEducation.us. [See page 2 for the message in bullet points. =>]</u>

#### **Suggestions:**

- 1. Provide the poster *National Veterans Day Started in Alabama* and the handout summary to organizers and speakers to use. Bonus: give to participants to boost learning and sharing.
- 2. Display the poster where guests can see as they enter and/or during the event.
- 3. \*Teach character traits for 10 minutes per day November 1-10. Of the 25 character traits mandated to teach in Alabama, these fit best: *Patriotism, Courage, Perseverance, Loyalty, Citizenship.* Sample lessons are in the book, <u>Patriotism in Action</u>.

### Requested Message to open Veterans Day Programs (Bullet Point Format)

- 1. America's first Veterans Day was organized in Alabama in 1947 by WWII veteran and former Alabama student, Raymond Weeks.
- 2. Alabama led the national movement after gaining support in 1946 from General Eisenhower, who as president established the federal holiday in 1954.
- 3. The National Veteran Award was established in Birmingham in 1954 and is presented annually.
- 4. President Reagan honored Mr. Weeks with the Presidential Citizens Medal in 1982 at the White House during his Veterans Day televised address to the nation.
- 5. The United States Senate passed a resolution in 2012 confirming the historical roots of starting Veterans Day in Alabama.
- 6. The book <u>Patriotism in Action</u> features the history of Veterans Day launched in Alabama and character traits demonstrated to inspire students (patriotism, courage, perseverance, loyalty, citizenship...).
- 7. You can get complimentary resources to teach, speak, and promote this inspiring information at the web page, <u>www.VeteransDayFoundingEducation.us</u>

# Principal Contact for Veterans Day Founding History & Character Education Dr. David Dyson

Historian & Author, National Veterans Day (founding city Birmingham)

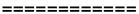
Veterans Day Founding History and Character Traits: <a href="mailto:David@LifeLeadersInstitute.org">David@LifeLeadersInstitute.org</a>

Student events with horses, Pledge of Allegiance, Patriotism: <a href="mailto:Doc@CompassionRanch.org">Doc@CompassionRanch.org</a>

Chairs of Patriotism in Action, which leads Veterans Day Founding Education Col. Bob (USA Retired) and Nancy Barefield, <u>BarefieldR@Bellsouth.net</u>

A few of our Friends and Advocates Supporting Our Educational Initiatives

Mr. Tim King, Manager, Caring Foundation of Blue Cross and Blue Shield Mr. Kyle Minor, grandson of Raymond Weeks, "Father of Veterans Day" (the White House) Mrs. Temple (Glenn) Wells, Ms. Senior Trussville; member Daughters of the American Revolution Mr. Mark Ryan, President, National Veterans Day in Birmingham, <a href="www.NationalVeteransDay.org">www.NationalVeteransDay.org</a>





### APATRIOTISM IN ACTION



www.LifeLeadersInstitute.org / www.PatriotismInAction.us / www.NationalVeteransDay.org

Life Leaders Institute (501 c3) serves through these main programs: Life Planning & Personal Leadership (plans and best practices for life)

Patriotism in Action (Veterans Day Founding Education & service to patriotic nonprofits)

Compassion Ranch (character traits *compassion*, *courage*, *patriotism*...and sanctuary care of horses)