

**Substitute for House Resolution No. 44.**

A resolution to declare April 5, 2015, as Gold Star Wives of America Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Gold Star Wives of America, Inc., began on April 5, 1945, in Marie Jordan's apartment on West 20th Street in New York City with the intent to provide support for spouses of military service members who lost their lives while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States; and

Whereas, The Gold Star Wives of America holds a Congressional Charter Order Title 36 of the U.S. Code under Public Law 96-497. There are members and local chapters in all parts of the United States. This organization is unique in that it consistently goes to the United States Congress for legislation for surviving spouses and children of military personnel; and

Whereas, The Gold Star Wives of America lists seven purposes for the organization: to uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States and inculcate a sense of individual obligation to community, state, and nation; to honor those who made the supreme sacrifice for our country; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy for which armed forces members fought and died; to provide for a healthy, wholesome, and happy life for minor children of persons who died in service; to promote activities and interests designed to foster members' proper mental attitude to face the future with courage; to aid military widows and children; and to do any and all things necessary and incidental to carry out the purposes and objectives of this organization; and

Whereas, Gold Star Wives' first dedication is to assisting newly widowed spouses and children. They also volunteer at military hospitals nationwide and are involved in numerous local charities; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare April 5, 2015, as Gold Star Wives of America Day in the state of Michigan. We join with the Gold Star Wives in celebrating their 70th anniversary of assisting those spouses and children of active service personnel who sacrificed their lives for this country; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Gold Star Wives of America with our highest esteem.