

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-THIRD SESSION**

S.R. No. 18

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DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/15/2023		Introduction Referred to Rules and Administration

1.1 A resolution

1.2 expressing the sense of the Minnesota Senate supporting the need for suitable

1.3 accommodations for the Fort Snelling National Cemetery Memorial Rifle Squad.

1.4 WHEREAS, the Fort Snelling National Cemetery Memorial Rifle Squad was founded in

1.5 1979 to provide military honors at the burial of a veteran in Fort Snelling National Cemetery; and

1.6 WHEREAS, since 1979, the Memorial Rifle Squad veteran volunteers have selflessly

1.7 performed these honors each day of the week if requested by the veteran's family and authorized

1.8 by the cemetery despite weather conditions or other difficulties. As of this date, over 85,000 such

1.9 Honor Services have been performed at the cemetery by the volunteer Memorial Rifle Squad at no

1.10 cost to the veteran's family or the citizens of the United States; and

1.11 WHEREAS, each day of the week that the cemetery is operational, the Memorial Rifle Squad,

1.12 composed of up to 25 members per day, provide up to 17 Honor Services for the veteran's burial

1.13 at the cemetery; and

1.14 WHEREAS, the Memorial Rifle Squad provides these honors year round in Minnesota, and

1.15 the squad needs suitable housing to prepare for the day's burials. Preparation for the burials begins

1.16 at 6:30 a.m. and clean up and closure of the quarters occurs at 2:30 p.m. To properly accommodate

1.17 the squad members personal needs, rifles, and other uniforms and equipment, the squad needs

1.18 expanded quarters on the grounds of the cemetery; and

1.19 WHEREAS, the present Memorial Rifle Squad quarters are inadequate in size and available

1.20 functions; NOW, THEREFORE,

1.21 BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the state of Minnesota supports the Fort Snelling

1.22 National Cemetery Memorial Rifle Squad in its efforts to acquire suitable accommodations for its

1.23 members as they perform this valuable service for our veterans and their families.