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**American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Alaska  
Resolution 2023-1**

Supporting the goals and ideals of Alaska Poppy Day on the Friday before Memorial Day:

**Whereas** poppies are worn and displayed as a symbolic tribute to fallen and future veterans and members of the Armed Forces;

**Whereas** the use of the poppy symbolically comes from the poem “In Flanders Fields”, which movingly begins, “In Flanders Fields the poppies blow, between the crosses, row on row”, referring to the poppies that sprang up in the churned-up earth of newly dug soldiers’ graves in parts of Belgium and France following World War I;

**Whereas** at the end of World War I, the American Legion adopted the poppy as a symbol of freedom and the blood sacrificed by members of the Armed Forces in war;

**Whereas** the American Legion Auxiliary has long utilized the red poppy as its official flower, symbolizing the blood shed by those who have served in the United States Armed Forces;

**Whereas** the poppy is worn, to commemorate members of the armed forces who have died in the line of duty;

**Whereas** Alaska’s American Legion Auxiliary Units will commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of American Legion Auxiliary Jack Henry Unit 1, it is fitting to expand the meaning of the poppy and formally recognize its historic symbolism;

**Whereas** wearing a poppy can unite citizens from across Alaska who wish to show their patriotism and appreciation for those who serve as members of the United States Armed Forces; and

**Whereas** the Friday before each Memorial Day is recognized as “National Poppy Day”;

**Now, therefore, be it Resolved, that**

1. American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska supports the goals and ideals of Alaska Poppy Day; and
2. encourages all citizens, residents, and visitors of the United States to join in observing National Poppy Day to honor every member of the Armed Forces who has died in the name of liberty, freedom, and democracy while also showing their support for living veterans, members of the Armed Forces, and their families.

  
Sue Todd

  
Lori Fruhwirth

  
Shirley Shadbolt