

FORT DR. MARY EDWARDS WALKER RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Mary Edwards Walker was born on November 26, 1832, in Oswego, New York, and

WHEREAS Mary Edwards Walker graduated with honors from Syracuse Medical College with a medical degree in 1855 only the second woman to do, and

WHEREAS at the onset of the Civil War, Dr. Walker traveled to Washington, D.C. to join the Union Army and was denied a commission as a medical officer due to her sex, and

WHEREAS she then served as an unpaid volunteer surgeon at the U.S. Patent Office hospital and subsequently worked as an unpaid field surgeon near the front lines at Fredericksburg and, Chattanooga, and

WHEREAS in September 1863 Dr. Walker became the first female U.S. Army surgeon following her commission as a "Contract Acting Assistant Surgeon (civilian)" by the Army of the Cumberland and while serving as an assistant surgeon with the 52nd Ohio Dr. Walker, who often crossed enemy lines to provide medical care, was detained and arrested by Confederate troops as a spy in April 1864 and was imprisoned at Castle Thunder prison near Richmond for 4 months until exchanged during a prisoner exchange, and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the war and based on the recommendations of Generals' George Thomas and William T. Sherman she was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Andrew Johnson for meritorious service, the only woman to ever be so honored, and

WHEREAS in 1916 the Medal Honor was taken away from Dr. Walker and then restored in 1977 during the administration of President Jimmy Carter, and

WHEREAS in 1982 the United States Postal Service issued a twenty-cent stamp in her honor, and in 2000 Dr. Walker was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame and in 2024 Dr. Walker was an honoree of a 2024 American Women Quarter, and

WHEREAS the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War offers the Dr. Mary Edwards Walker Award to a female member of the Allied Orders in recognition of and in appreciation for her outstanding service to the SUVCW, and

WHEREAS on January 2021 a bipartisan United States Congress overwhelmingly passed legislation (by a vote of 322 to 87 in the House of Representatives and of 81 to 13 in the Senate) creating the "Naming Commission" to create a list of military assets with names associated with the Confederate States of America and recommendations for their removal one of which was Fort A. P. Hill named for Confederate General A.P. Hill who served in the Army of Northern Virginia and thereby was a traitor to the Union and therefore the United States of America. By decision of the duly appointed bipartisan "Naming Commission" created by said Congressional legislation said Military installation was renamed Fort Walker for Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, and

WHEREAS in 2025 the Secretary of Defense under the direction of the President of the United States and contrary to the intent and spirit of the legislation overwhelmingly passed by the United States Congress reverted it name back to Fort. A.P. Hill claiming authority to rename the Fort to Anderson-Pinn-Hill shortened to A.P. Hill; and

WHEREAS the Secretary of Defense under the direction of the President of the United States and contrary to the intent and spirit of the aforesaid legally approved legislation of the United States Congress seeks to or has changed names of other military installations back to their original Confederate names, and

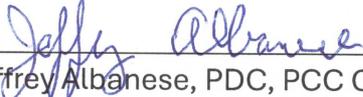
WHEREAS it is incumbent upon us, as descendants of all those men and women, both black and white, who served the Union during the American Civil War and to preserve their legacy and their accomplishments in the cause of freedom and in the abolition of slavery, and to oppose those efforts that seek to glorify the Confederacy,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of New York, urge our United States Senators and Representatives to support legislation or similar efforts banning or revoking the efforts of the Secretary of Defense, and the Department of Defense from changing the name of Fort Walker back to Fort A.P. Hill as well as renaming other similarly named military installations using the subterfuge of allegedly renaming the military installations for non-Confederate men and women who just happen to have names identical to their original Confederate names, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of New York, urge its national affiliate the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to adopt this resolution urging our United States Senators and Representatives to support legislation or similar efforts banning or revoking the efforts of the Secretary of Defense, and the Department of Defense from changing the name of Fort Walker back to Fort A.P. Hill as well as their renaming other similarly named military installations using the subterfuge of allegedly renaming the military installations for non-Confederate men and women who just happen to have names identical to their original Confederate names, at its next annual encampment.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE COLONEL A. V. H. ELLIS CAMP #124, SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR, DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, AT A DULY SCHEDULED MONTHLY MEETING ON AUGUST 25, 2025.

Dated: August 25, 2025



Jeffrey Albanese, PDC, PCC Camp Secretary
Colonel A.V.H. Ellis Camp 124, SUVCW