

Quotes:

“Like the women who the WWII Nurses Congressional Gold Medal Act will honor, Senator Baldwin doesn’t give up. I applaud her for reintroducing the Act and for her continued support of telling the stories of all who have served their nation. The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs fully supports the recognition and celebration of these brave women.” – Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary-designee James Bond

“The Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation representing the 3 Million women that have defended the nation over the past 247 years is pleased to support the WWII Nurses Congressional Gold Medal Act to honor the incredible service of more than 70,000 Army and Navy nurses who volunteered to serve during World War Two.” - Phyllis J. Wilson, MPA, BSN, RN, President of the Military Women’s War Memorial (Washington, D.C.)

“During World War II some 59,000 Army Nurses and 14,000 Navy Nurses volunteered to serve. They served bravely and effectively, playing a critical role in the Allied victory over Fascism. Honoring the important service and sacrifice of these brave Americans is the right thing to do. The Friends of the National World War II Memorial is proud to endorse the “WWII Nurses Congressional Gold Medal Act.” This bill will provide long overdue and richly deserved recognition. It is our hope that this important bi-partisan legislation will be approved by Congress and signed into law this year.” – Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Washington, D.C.)

“Combat nurses served during WWII all over the world, on land, sea, and air. Their service was often arduous, sometimes leading to wounds or death, while a few nurses endured years of captivity. Through all of it, these women again and again did their duty to the highest standards of professionalism and steadfastness. “I never saw a nurse afraid,” recalled General Carlos Romulo, who spoke for many. There’s a reason that the term “angels” was used multiple times to refer to combat nurses. The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is proud to preserve stories of Wisconsin connected combat nurses in our collections. A Congressional Gold Medal would be a singular honor and well-deserved recognition of what these women did for their country.” -Christopher Kololowski, Director of Wisconsin Veterans Museum

"The American Red Cross applauds the reintroduction WWII Nurses Congressional Gold Medal Act in honor of the brave women who served as members of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and U.S. Navy Nurse Corps. Despite historical inequities based on gender and race, women shared their expertise as nurses and physicians to foster wellbeing and mitigate suffering and death. I am deeply grateful for the resilience, legacy and inspiration of these extraordinary nurses and their colleagues." - Linda MacIntyre, Chief Nurse, American Red Cross

“I am grateful to Senator Baldwin and her staff’s continuous support for the Congressional Gold Medal for our WWII combat nurses. Generations of Americans are alive today because of their exemplary service and sacrifice on the frontlines during that horrific war. They asked for nothing and give it their all!” -Sally Berkholder, Glenwood City Resident who started the Tribute to Ellen Ainsworth page via Facebook (grandparents were friends of 2LT Ellen Ainsworth’s parents, WW2 Nurse killed in action and widely recognized for her heroic actions

as a “Angel of Anzio.” Ainsworth has been widely recognized for her heroism, with a conference room at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., a residence hall at the Wisconsin Veterans Home in King, a health clinic at Fort Hamilton in New York and the post office and American Legion Post in Glenwood City all named for her).

“These frontline combat nurses never received the credit they were due, I think we all owe these women a huge debt of gratitude.” -Sally Berkholder

“Throughout our history the Military Medical Corps have been giving first aid and trauma care to the wounded on the battlefield and at the rear hospitals. In World War I, military leaders sought to keep the nurses safe by keeping them as far away from the battlefield as possible. However, they eventually realized that more lives could be saved if the nurses were readily available to treat wounds at the front.” -Shawn Winter (President of VFW Chapter Naples-Monte Cassino)