

House Joint Memorial 202

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SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Urges President and Congress to support full funding of United States Coast Guard's operational readiness and recapitalization requirements.

JOINT MEMORIAL

1
2 To the President of the United States and the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United
3 States of America, in Congress assembled:

4 We, your memorialists, the Seventy-sixth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legis-
5 lative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

6 Whereas the United States Coast Guard is a military, maritime, multimission service that has
7 answered the call of Americans continuously for more than 220 years; and

8 Whereas the United States Coast Guard's military structure, law enforcement authority and
9 humanitarian functions make it a unique arm of the national security apparatus of the United States;
10 and

11 Whereas the United States Coast Guard is well known for being the first to reach the scene
12 when maritime disaster strikes, and continues to be tasked with protecting our waters from pol-
13 lution, our borders from drug smuggling and our fisheries from overharvesting and with many other
14 assignments that stretch its resources thin; and

15 Whereas the United States Coast Guard has remained steady in its commitment to the mission
16 of lifesaving and to safeguarding the ocean, even as its responsibilities and missions have evolved;
17 and

18 Whereas the United States Coast Guard is the only military organization within the Department
19 of Homeland Security; and

20 Whereas the duties of the United States Coast Guard include search and rescue, law enforce-
21 ment, aiding navigation, marine safety, safeguarding ports, waterways and coasts, drug interdiction,
22 migrant interdiction, engaging in oceanographic research, protecting the marine environment and
23 conducting operations to break ice that obstructs navigation; and

24 Whereas natural resources and transportation routes in the Arctic are being pursued by all
25 Arctic nations and many other nations as Arctic sea ice is reduced, and the United States Coast
26 Guard is increasing its activities in the Arctic in order to improve knowledge and defense of the
27 Arctic interests of the United States; and

28 Whereas no other military service or private organization has the extensive inventory of assets
29 and expertise to conduct search and rescue missions on lakes, rivers, nearshore areas and the high
30 seas for both recreational boaters and commercial mariners; and

31 Whereas the United States Coast Guard's missions are varied and touch the lives of all Ameri-

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 cans; and

2 Whereas the United States Coast Guard provides the first line of defense in protecting the
3 maritime environment through its marine safety program, ensures the safe commercial transport of
4 passengers, cargo and oil through our waters, and guards our maritime borders from the incursions
5 of foreign fishing vessels; and

6 Whereas the United States Coast Guard serves as a global model of effective and efficient mili-
7 tary, maritime, multimission service for the emerging coast guards of the world, helps other coun-
8 tries become positive forces of peace and helps ensure stability and promote democracy and the rule
9 of law in these other countries; and

10 Whereas the men and women of the United States Coast Guard are a highly motivated group
11 of individuals who are committed to serving the American public; and

12 Whereas the Pacific Fisheries Legislative Task Force has requested that the Legislative As-
13 semblies of the states of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon and Washington support full funding of
14 the United States Coast Guard and its missions and people; now, therefore,

15 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

16 (1) The President of the United States and the Congress of the United States of America are
17 respectfully requested to support full funding of the United States Coast Guard's operational read-
18 iness and recapitalization requirements in order to ensure that this humanitarian arm of our na-
19 tional security apparatus remains Semper Paratus through the 21st century.

20 (2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States, to the Senate
21 Majority Leader, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to each member of the Oregon
22 Congressional Delegation.

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