

**Enrolled**  
**House Joint Memorial 14**

Sponsored by Representative NELSON; Representative BERGER

To the President of the United States, the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, and the Secretary of Defense:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas the use of the National Guard and Reserve over the last five years has marked the largest sustained call-up of citizen soldiers since World War II; and

Whereas the National Guard and Reserve make up more than 40 percent of the nearly 150,000 United States troops in Iraq; and

Whereas the commitment of the United States throughout the world has increased substantially over the past several years; and

Whereas the Oregon National Guard has committed 70 percent of its Army National Guard troops to the current conflict in the Middle East; and

Whereas the Oregon Air National Guard has mobilized more than 75 percent of its forces for the global war on terror since September 11, 2001; and

Whereas the current drain on troop strength and retention of the most qualified soldiers and airmen is the most significant issue facing the National Guard and Reserve in the near future; and

Whereas the age limit for receipt of retiree pay for National Guard and Reserve service members was set decades ago when the National Guard and Reserve were not relied upon to the extent they are today; and

Whereas the men and women who serve in the National Guard and Reserve are the soldiers and airmen who are instrumental in maintaining our nation's defense; and

Whereas a strong, well-trained and full-strength militia is essential for homeland defense missions, and the National Guard and Reserve play a vital role in disaster relief and recovery within the state; and

Whereas the current law states that a retired Reserve member will begin to draw military retiree pay upon reaching 60 years of age; and

Whereas retirement benefits for active duty retirees are far superior to those for Reserve retirees; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly, respectfully request that the Congress of the United States, in this 110th Congress, enact a National Guard and Reserve Retirement Act that provides for National Guard and Reserve members who attain 30 years of service or 55 years of age to immediately receive military retiree pay as a full and equal partner within the uniformed services of the United States of America; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of Defense and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

Adopted by House April 19, 2007

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Chief Clerk of House

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Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate May 18, 2007

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President of Senate