

House Joint Memorial 14

Sponsored by Representative NELSON; Representative BERGER

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 Congress to enact 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.

JOINT MEMORIAL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

31 That we, the members of the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly, respectfully request that the

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 Congress of the United States, in this 110th Congress, enact a National Guard and Reserve Retire-
2 ment Act that provides for National Guard and Reserve members who attain 30 years of service or
3 55 years of age to immediately receive military retiree pay as a full and equal partner within the
4 uniformed services of the United States of America; and be it further

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

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